

journal

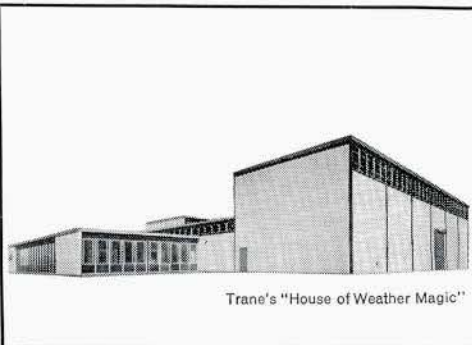
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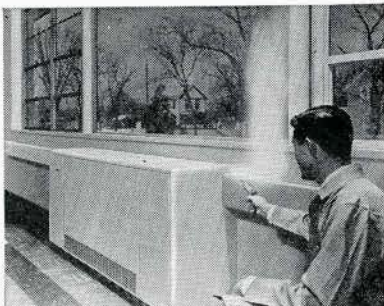
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RAIC JOURNAL

Serial No 403, Vol. 36, No 3

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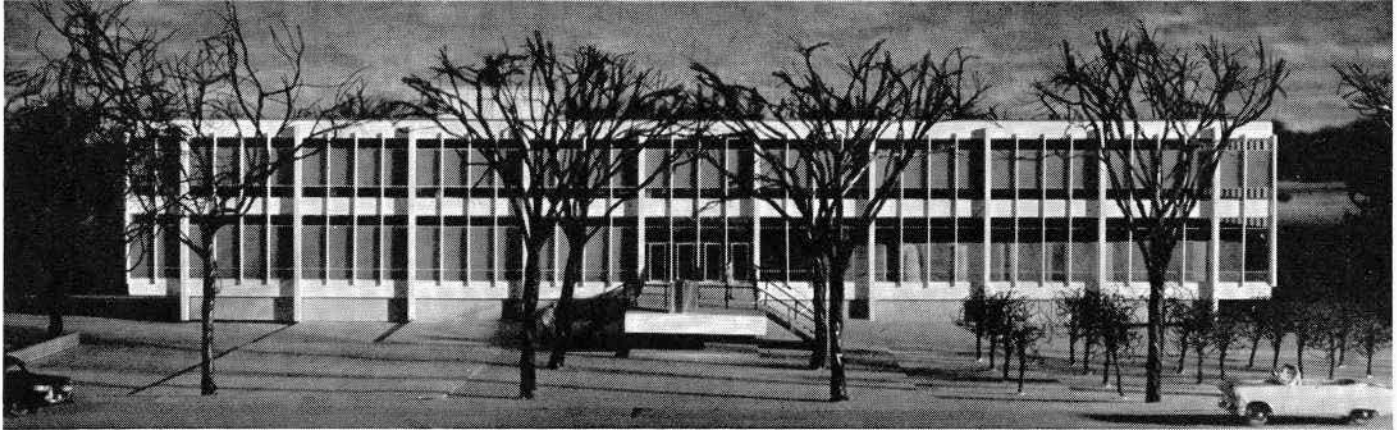
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INTRODUCTION



FORWARD

This issue of the *Journal* is the seventh annual one to be devoted to the work of one of the five Canadian Schools of Architecture. We are grateful indeed to the Editorial Board for this quinquennial opportunity to review the work at The University of Manitoba for the members of the profession.

THE SCHOOL

The opening of the present session marked the forty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the School of Architecture at Manitoba, the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of its Department of Interior Design, and the tenth anniversary of the commencement of its post graduate course in Community Planning. Such anniversaries always provide occasion for reviewing past achievements, taking stock of present progress, and planning for reorganization, expansion and development. This 1958 anniversary has had special significance for us at Manitoba for it marked the commencement of the construction of a building for the School.

In February, 1957, the Government of Manitoba authorized the construction of such a building in response to the request submitted by the Board of Governors of the University. The firm of Smith Carter Katelnikoff Associates (now known as Smith Carter Searle Associates) was appointed as the architects and work on the design commenced immediately in collaboration with members of our staff. Late in the year, with the establishment of The Canada Council, a grant of \$500,000.00 from its University Capital Fund was authorized. We are indeed profoundly grateful to The Canada Council, the Government of Manitoba, our Board of Governors and the University Administration and to the architects for making this building possible.

Before the end of the coming summer, we expect to move into the new building. This will be the first time the School has had a building of its own and one designed especially for its needs. Furthermore, it will mark the end of more than a decade of decentralization during which our work has been scattered between five buildings on the campus. To say that we are jubilantly grateful is a definite understatement.

We are confident that the School's program of teaching undergraduate architects and interior designers, together with the related programs of post-graduate study and of research in architecture, housing and community planning, will now be able to achieve greater significance both individually and collectively. We recognize, of course, that the essence and achievements of a school's program are the direct result of the calibre of its staff, the attitude and effort of its

students, and the availability of an excellent reference library. However, we are confidently expecting to discover that a well-designed, well-equipped environment will enable these three essential ingredients of a school to function more efficiently and more effectively. We look forward to the achievement of an integrated program of teaching and research which will be both vital and sound.

ITS PROGRAM

The presentation of the several facets of our program, as organized on the following pages by a group of undergraduates under the guidance of Professor R. D. Gillmor, is not intended to establish a definitive statement or policy of architectural education. On the contrary, it is intended to reveal the totality of experience which we feel is essential to the understanding of the basic principles of the profession and its practice. For a number of years, the School has endeavored to present to the student the maximum number of varied theories, techniques and experiences so that he may then develop as an individual whose creative abilities will be both intensive and reasoned. In architecture, as in all the creative arts, it is the tangible evidence of the completed work which speaks for itself, not the rehearsal of theories and methods which are only means to the end.

ITS GRADUATES

At its Annual Meeting in July, the Editorial Board of the *Journal* requested that, in the future School issues, the work of a graduate be included. Welcome as the request was, it appeared at first to create an awkward situation for a school: how to choose one graduate from among many hundred without implying that he must be considered to be the best graduate? Like all schools we are proud of the achievements of many of our graduates and their distinguished contributions to the profession. In fact, whatever measure of success or prestige a school has is the cumulative result of the performance of its graduates in the profession and in the community.

In this issue, we are proud to present some of the work of Harry Seidler (Manitoba 1944) of Sydney, Australia, who, like many of his classmates and fellow alumni elsewhere in the world, has achieved considerable distinction as an architect. His achievements are the result of his personal growth and development, the ground work for which we modestly assume was laid in his undergraduate years.

We trust the readers of this issue of the *Journal* will find enjoyment and stimulation in what they see therein, and will recognize therein a sincerity of purpose and humility of approach which our staff attempts to maintain.

John A. Russell, Director

The background of the entire page is a dense, black-and-white abstract architectural drawing. It features a complex network of lines, including straight, curved, and intersecting paths, which suggest a city plan or a structural framework. Various geometric shapes, such as squares, rectangles, and circles, are scattered throughout, often containing smaller symbols like arrows or dots. The overall effect is one of a busy, layered, and somewhat chaotic design, typical of mid-century modern architectural sketches.

UNIVERSITY

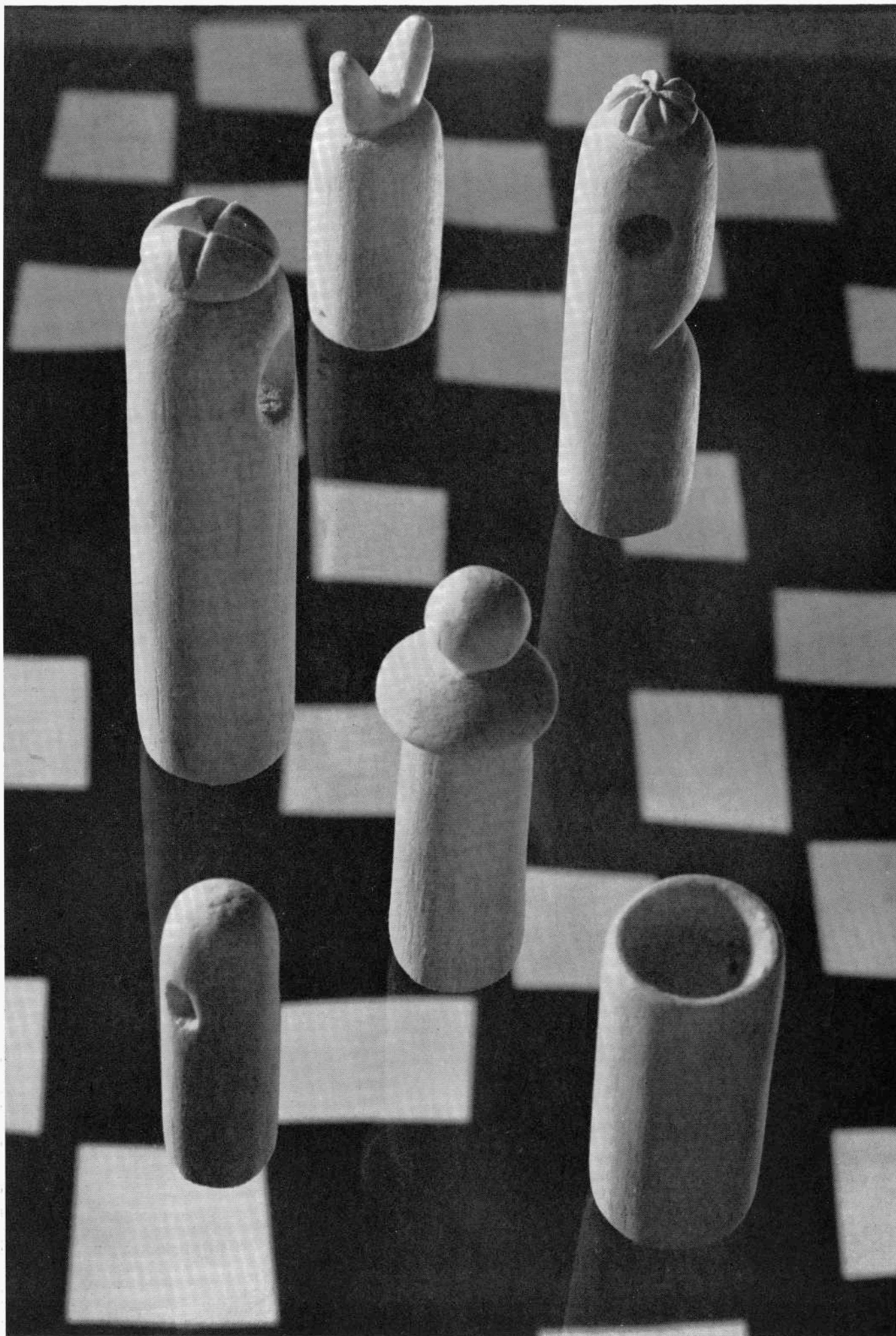
OF

MANITOBA

SCHOOL

OF

ARCHITECTURE



BACKGROUND

The University of Manitoba

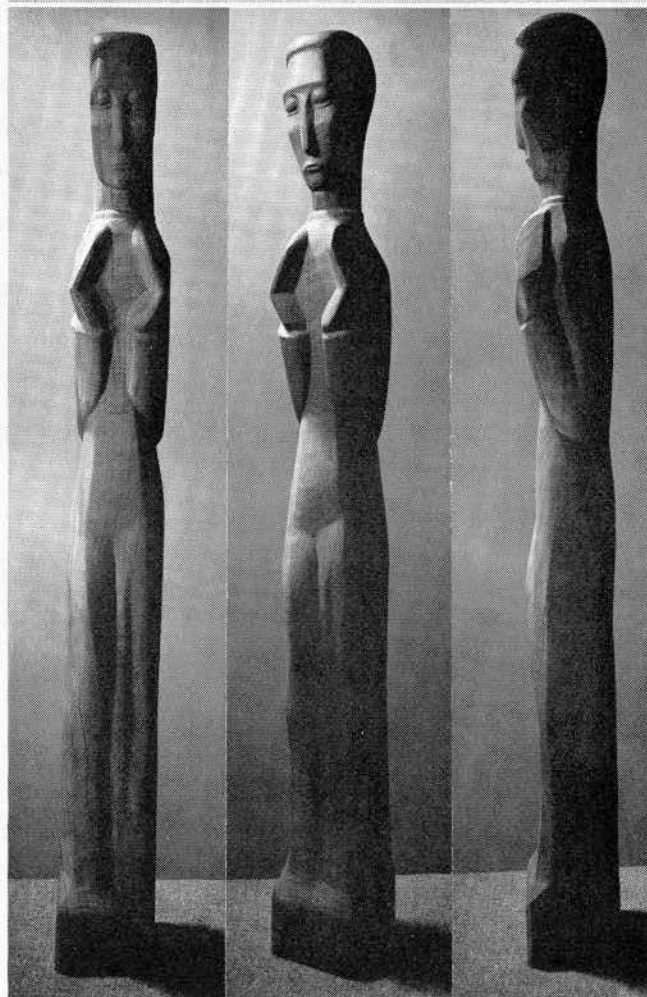
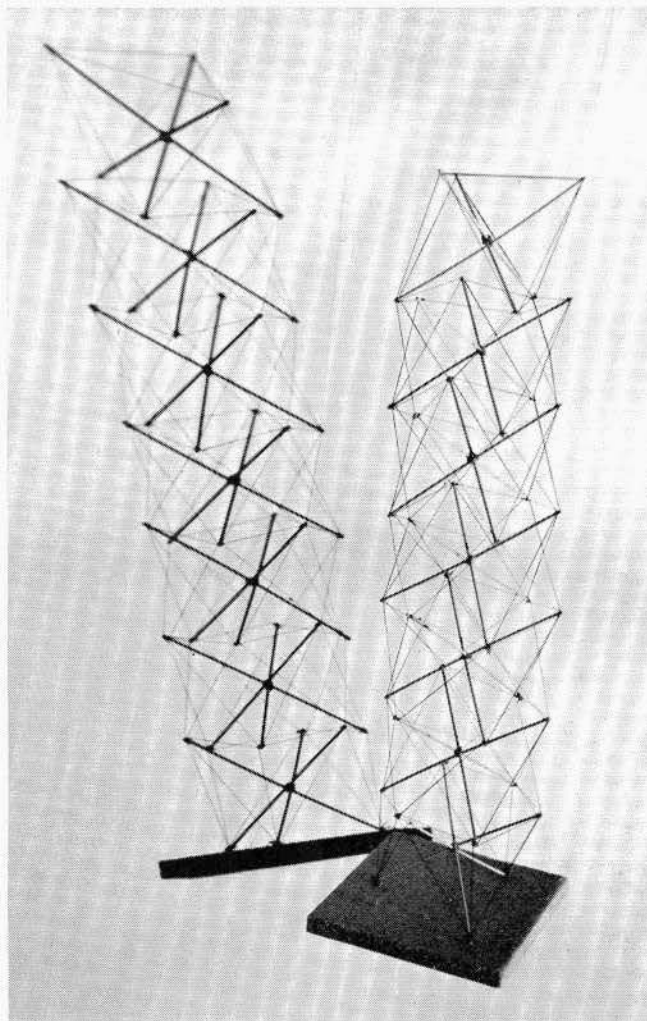
School of Architecture has been found to be without cause but not without reason. There is

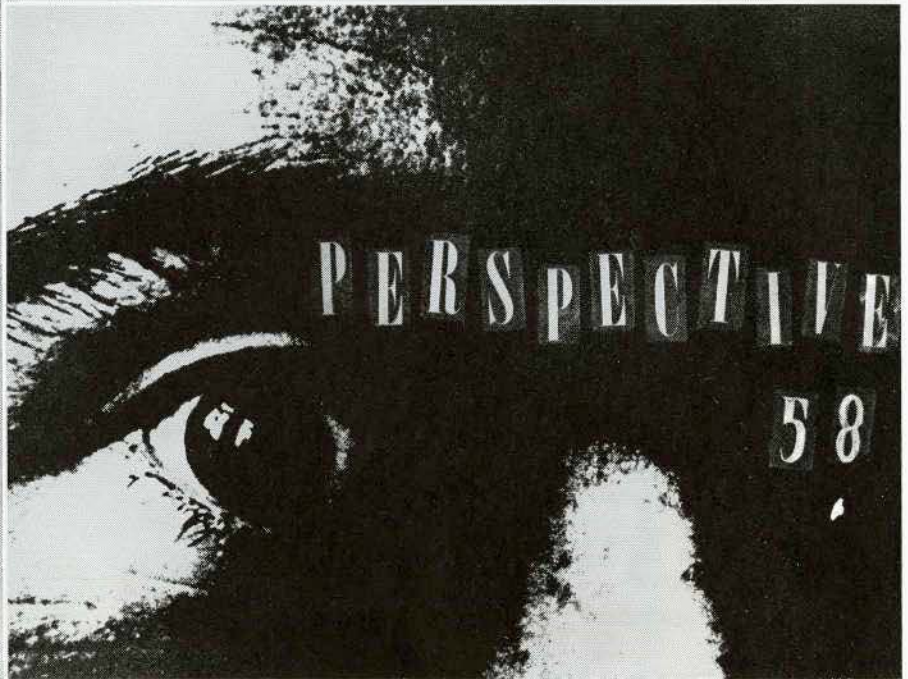
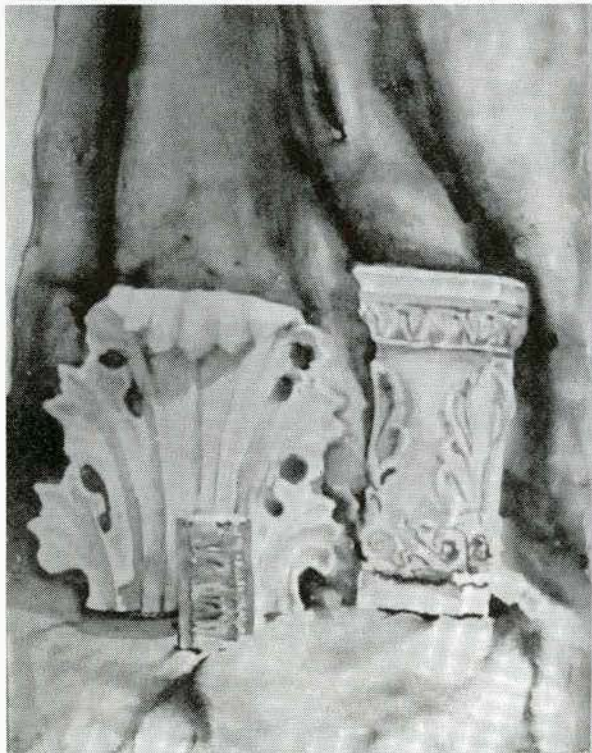
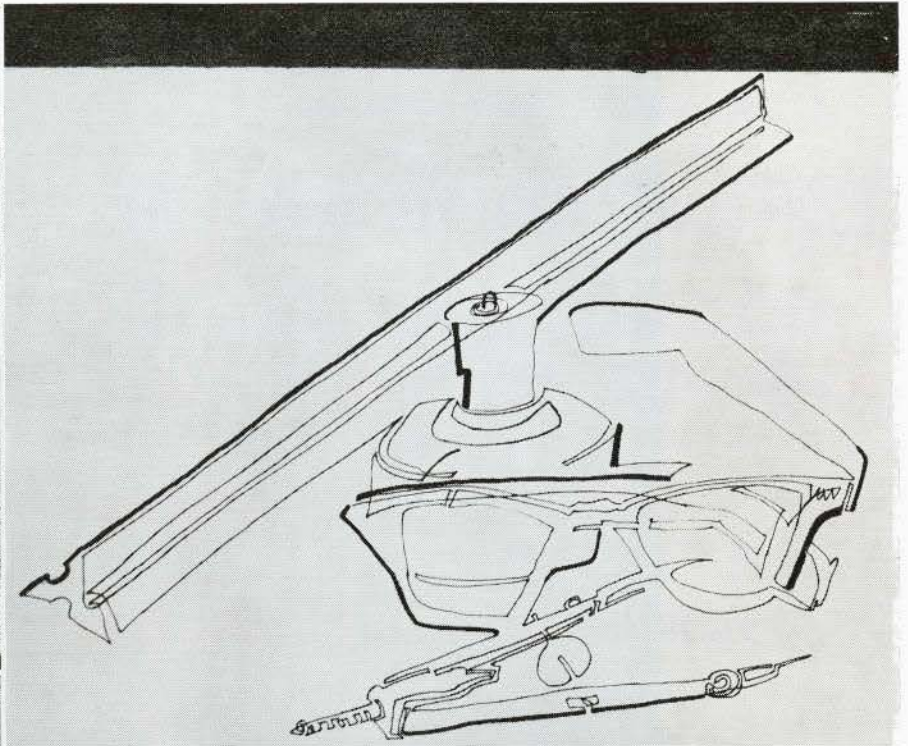
no doctrine, no dominant philosophical influence that will establish our identity.

Every student is obligated by his own demands to grow out of the void that initially surrounds him. This he learns by searching and creates out of the acquired background of knowledge and experience.

There is only one insistent demand made on the creative process — logic. Anarchy is insufferable; no genuine emotion can be stifled by a rationale.

We begin always with research into the nature of man and his environment, as they may affect the use of our particular media.



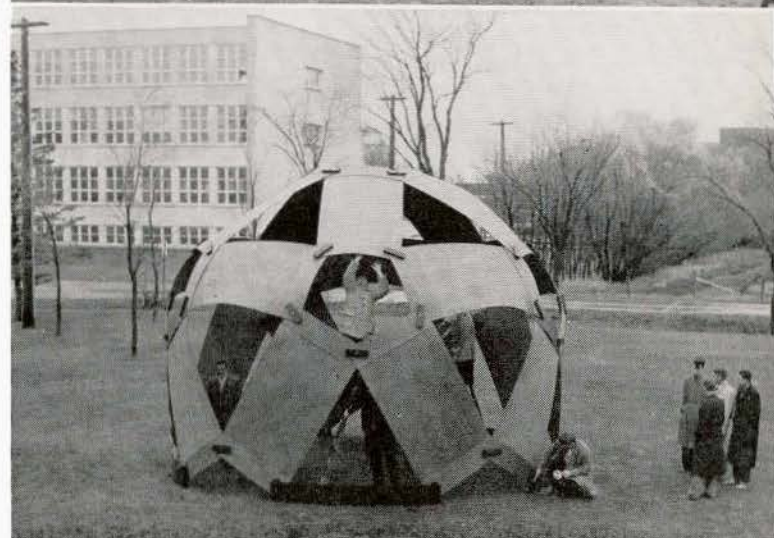


Summer sketch . . . graphic presentation

The problem . . . a magazine cover

Research and analysis of the background of architecture involves the study of a variety of things. Within the design courses we begin with the non-objective and proceed to the impersonal until we have a vocabulary and a certain amount of indignation.

As an antidote we have studies in the humanities and the allied arts as well as technical and theoretical analysis. The prime virtue of the system is rooted in the fact that the student must question himself and work further if he is to gain any meaning from it. He is compelled to complete the pattern within the essential rudimentary boundaries.



GEODESIC DOME

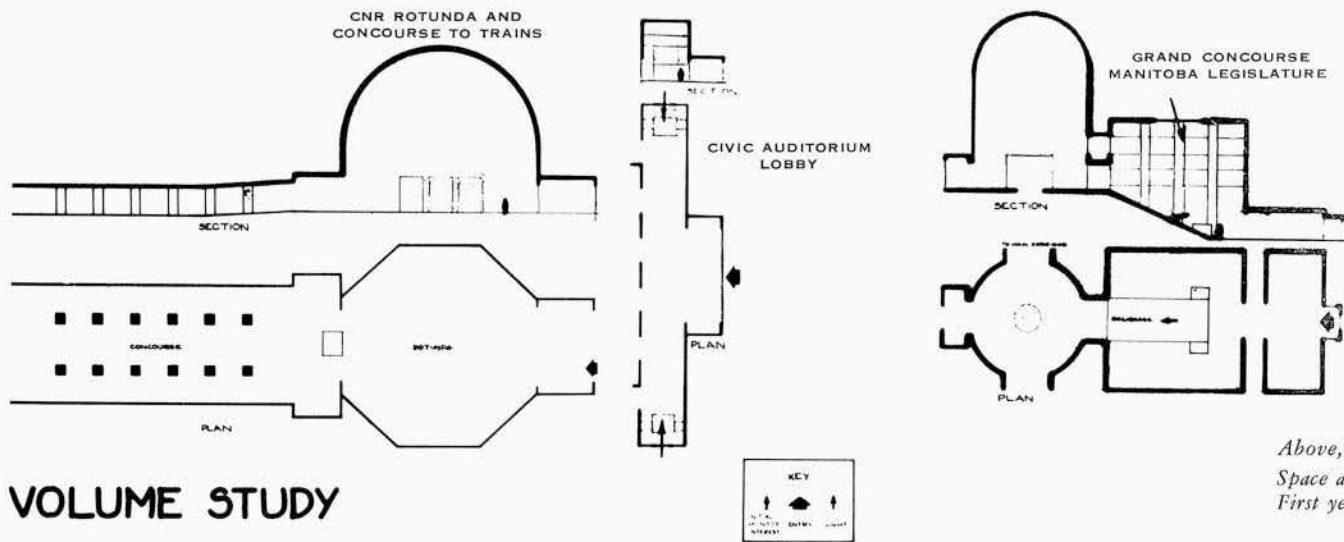
Basically the dome was an approach in using materials available to almost anyone near a lumber yard and hardware store. The sheets are 4' x 8' x $\frac{3}{8}$ " plywood with half inch bolts and nuts.

With an entire class the unit was constructed in fifty minutes. All panels were drilled the same distance from the corners. This eliminated complicated jigs or labelling of units. All bolts were of the same size. It was calculated that from material to fabrication to erection could be accomplished by unskilled labour of five men in five hours.

RESEARCH

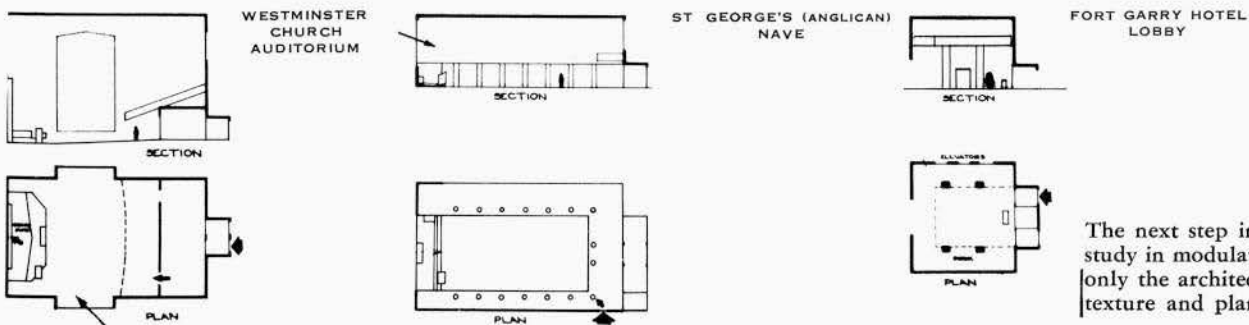
ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Introducing the beginning student to an increased perception of interior spaces and volumes is always a difficult task. To accomplish this an experiment was attempted in which the student was instructed to analyze a series of spaces in local buildings varying from monumental spaces to more humble spaces. He was responsible for visualizing the configuration of these spaces graphically in plan and sections. He then recorded his reactions to these spaces in terms of scale, colour, light and materials.



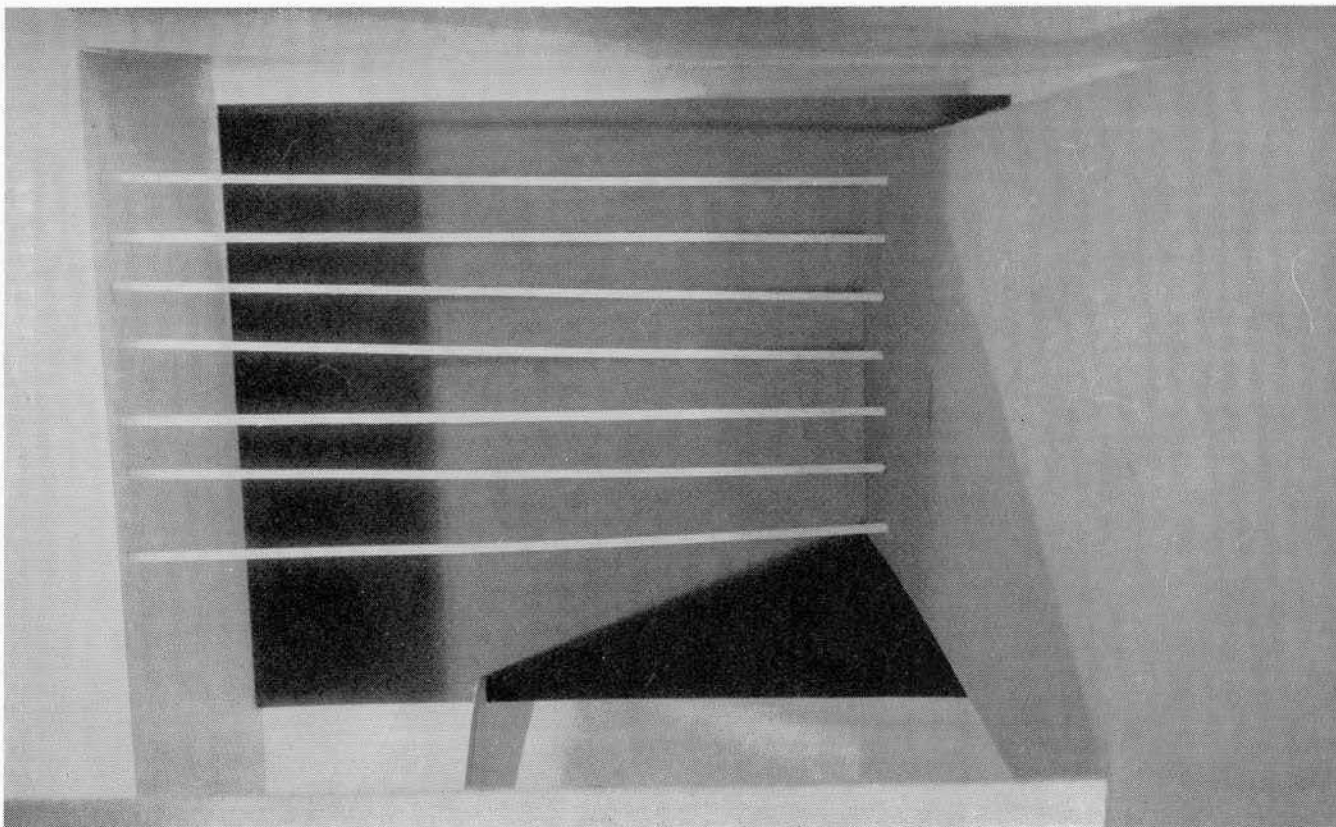
*Above,
Space and volume analysis
First year problem for one week*

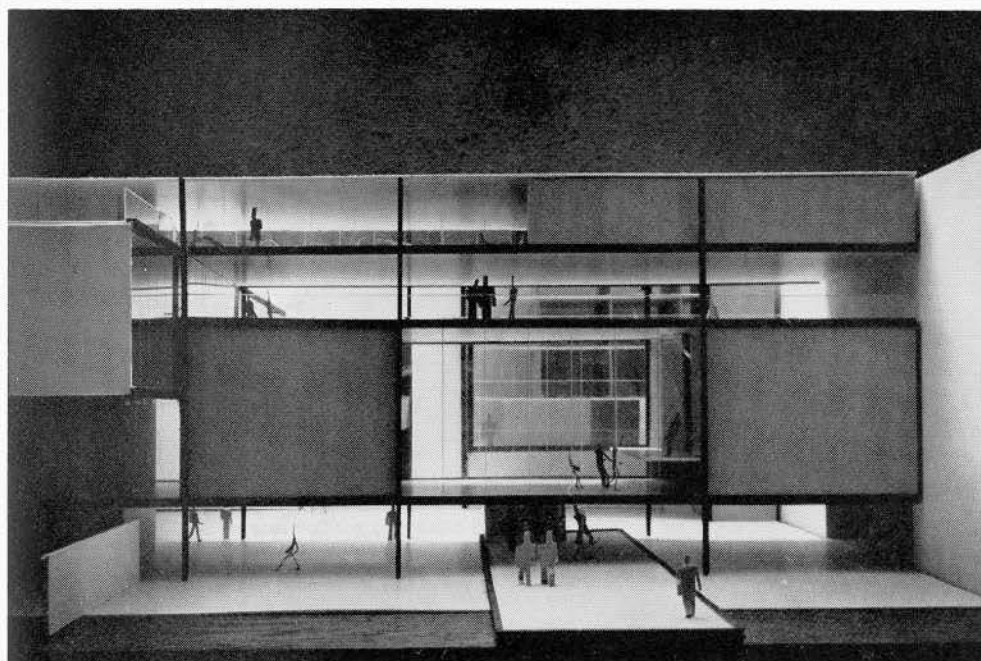
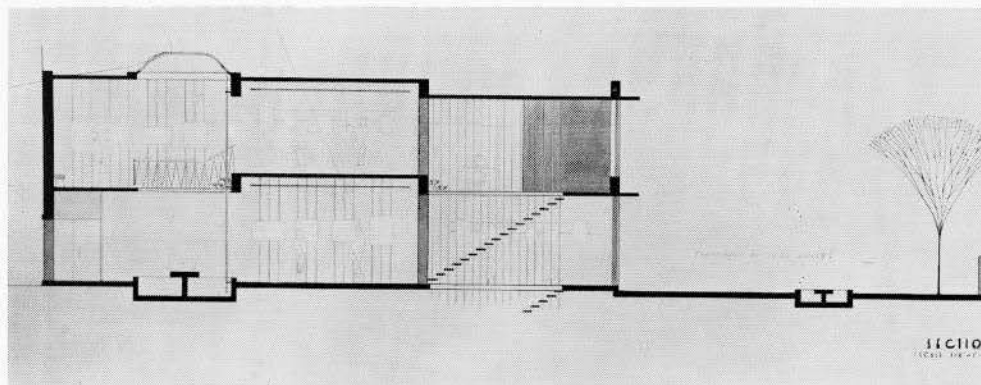
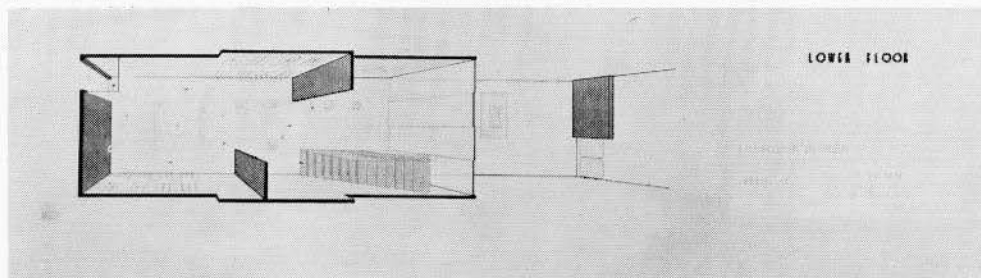
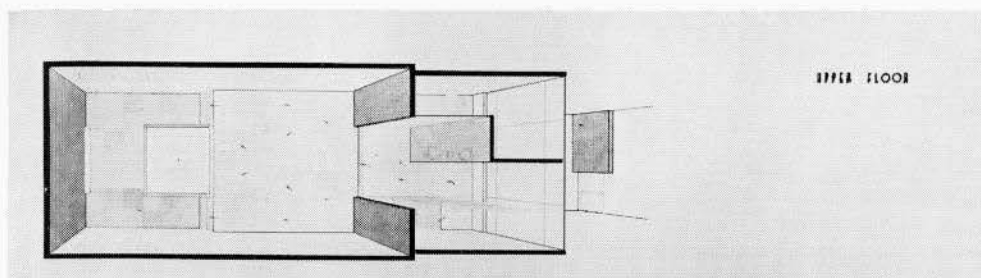
VOLUME STUDY



*Below,
Space modulator
First year problem for one week*

The next step in the process was a non-objective study in modulation of a limited space again using only the architectonic tools of light, colour, form, texture and plane.





To complete the continuity, the student had to solve a simple function within a limited site condition — two party walls and a given beam structure.

*Small art gallery
First year problem for one week*

*Space modulator
Fifth year design*

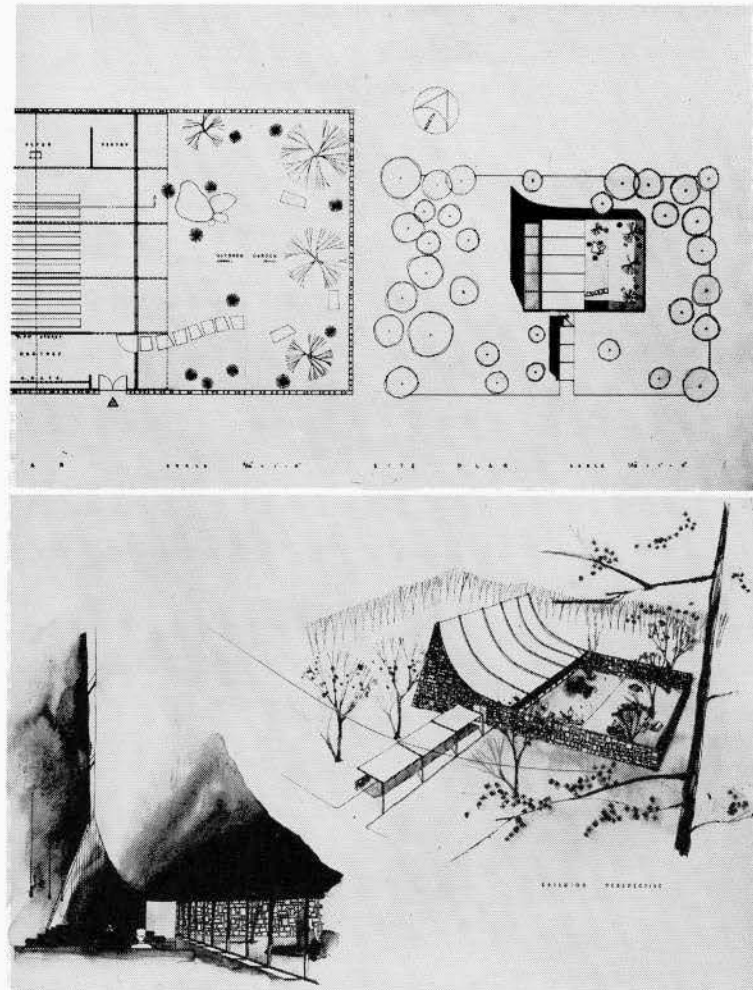
An excerpt from a fifth year problem concerned primarily with the same elements — the composition of interior spaces and the meaning of scale.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHAPEL FOR THE CAMPUS

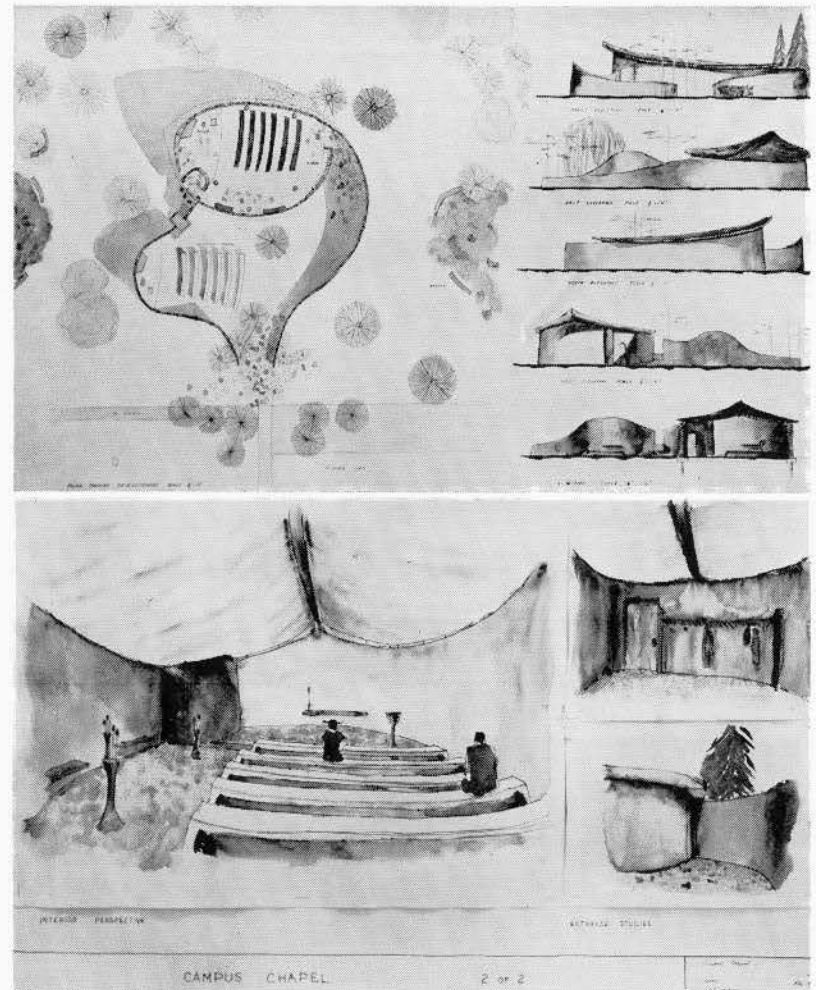
Third Year

Time, three weeks

Ecclesiastical architecture is in our era an embarrassing subject resulting usually in tidy futility or outrageous sensationalism. The program was uncomfortably emphatic in that it required a solution for the students' own needs for spiritual comfort. Since the building was to be inter-denominational and would serve as a retreat as well as a place of worship, it demanded a special character different to that of a church.



The first submission was selected not because it was a completely adequate architectural solution but because it seemed possessed with a uniquely brutal sureness of conviction and sense of need that manages to remain universal in its spirit.



The second solution, while more successful architecturally, and more typical of the general approach, suffers perhaps from its own virtues. One wonders if refinement and delicacy of composition alone can stir the spirit unless the sense of order approaches arrogance.

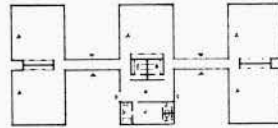
SUBURBAN PARISH CHURCH

Third Year

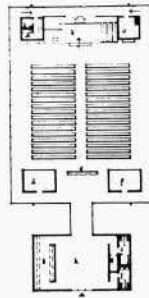
Time, five weeks



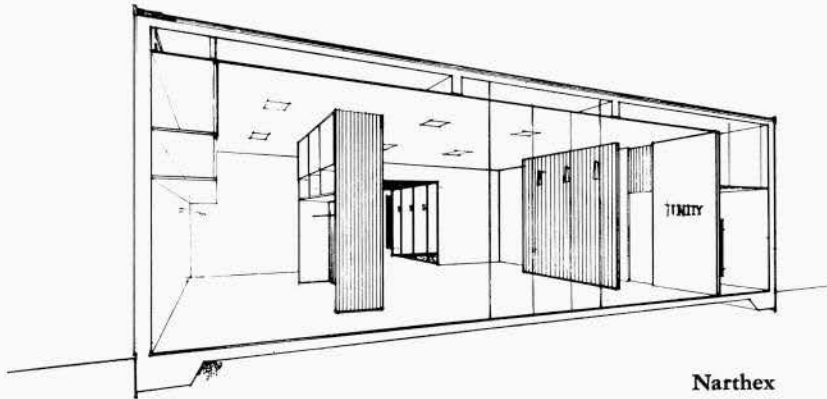
Assembly hall plan



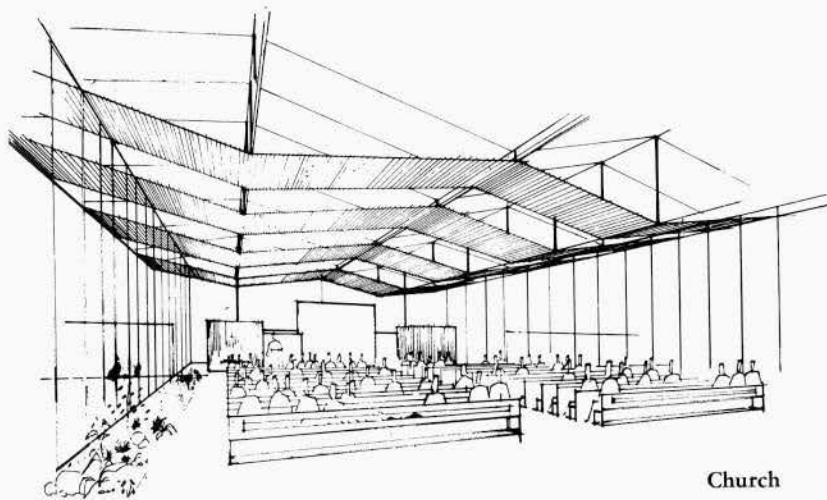
Sunday school plan



Church plan



Narthex



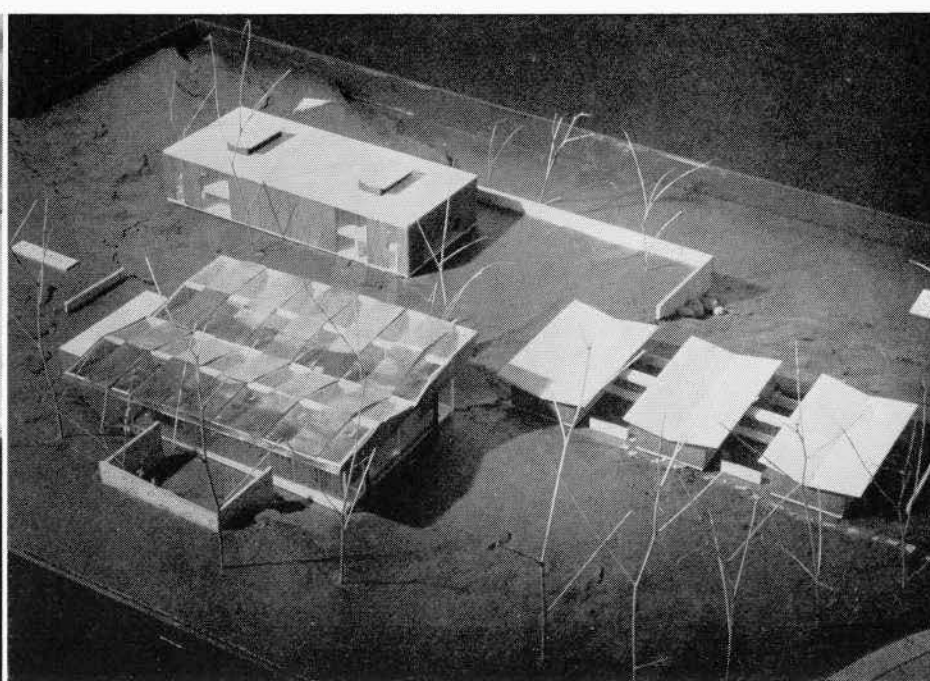
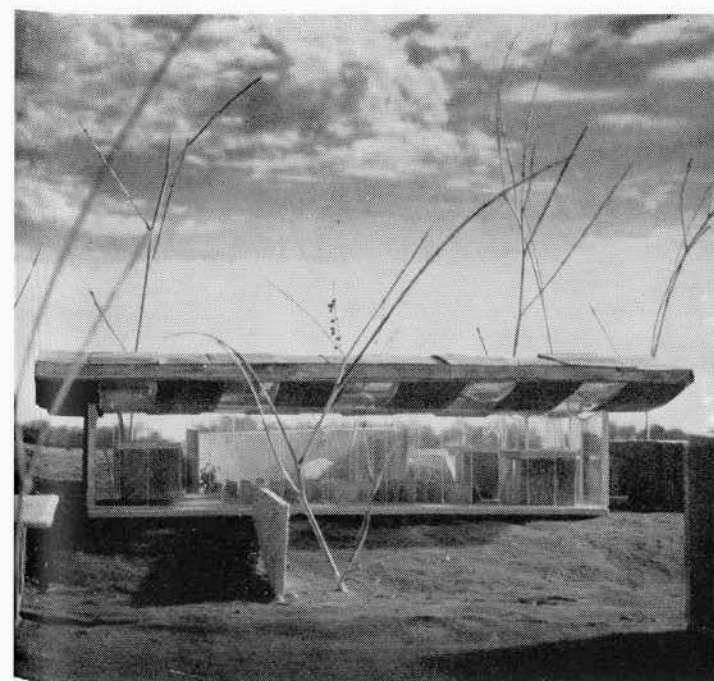
Church

The preliminary part of this program was an investigation of the position of the contemporary church in the intellectual life of the community. Certainly the modern church has assumed the role of a social centre to the point where that function has become equal to its religious function. The Christian education of young people has also altered the church form.

In architectural terms, the church has emerged as a new building type with its subsidiary facilities occupying an increasingly larger part of the design.

This program required the development of a typical suburban neighbourhood site, to include sanctuary, Christian education facilities, parish hall and adequate parking. The students were required to make an individual choice of denomination with its established liturgical background.

Photographs of model

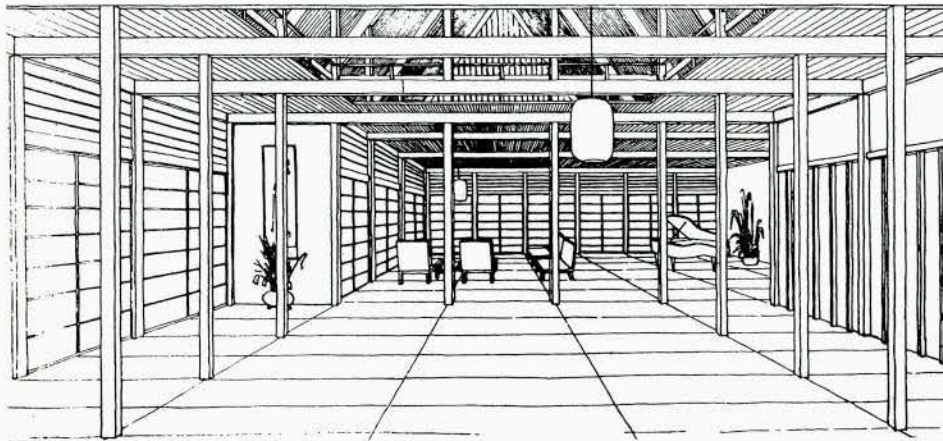
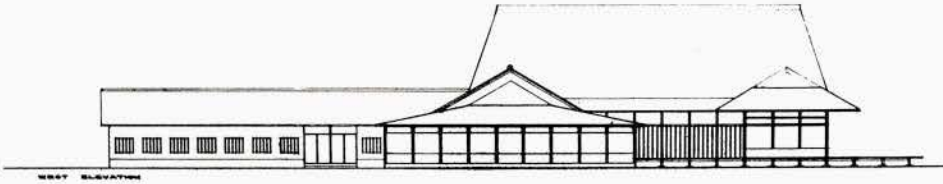




PRAIRIE MANSION

Fourth Year

Time, six weeks



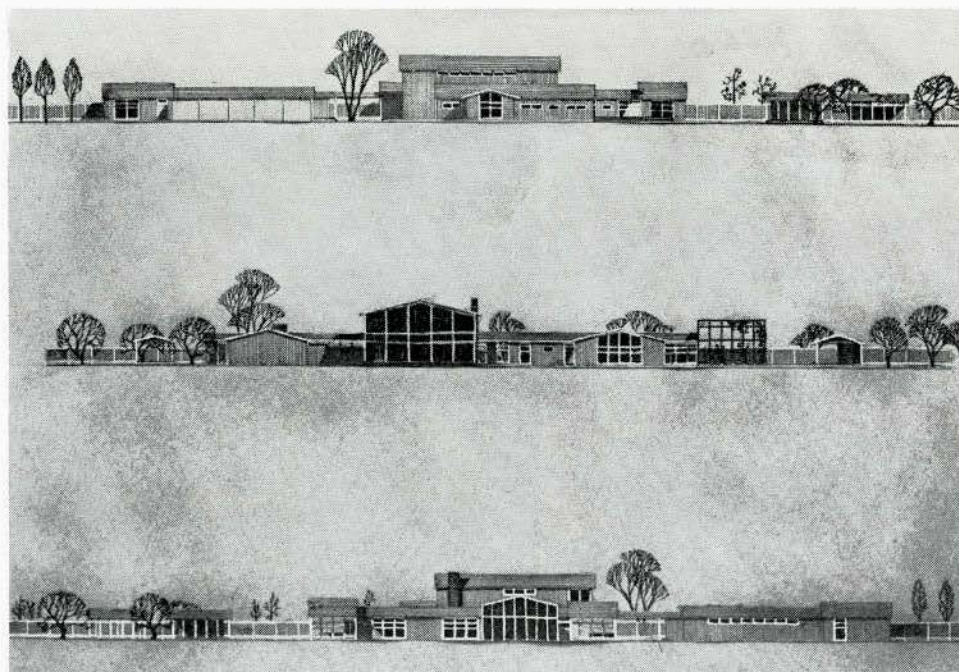
Above, two elevations and an interior perspective of a house whose design is based on oriental forms.

The program presented two major problems: the solution of the very large house as a distinct architectural type, demanding an awareness to the needed character and organization; and the production of a building in the uncompromising environment of the prairies.

Both submissions here reflect much of a personal environment far removed from the immediate landscape; the traditional forms of the Far East and a recollection of Ontario barns. The overwhelming void of the prairies demands a distinct and positive statement, but suggests none.

The organization of a large house also becomes a highly personal thing because of the need for interpretation of the space-use relationship between the various divergent elements of the house.

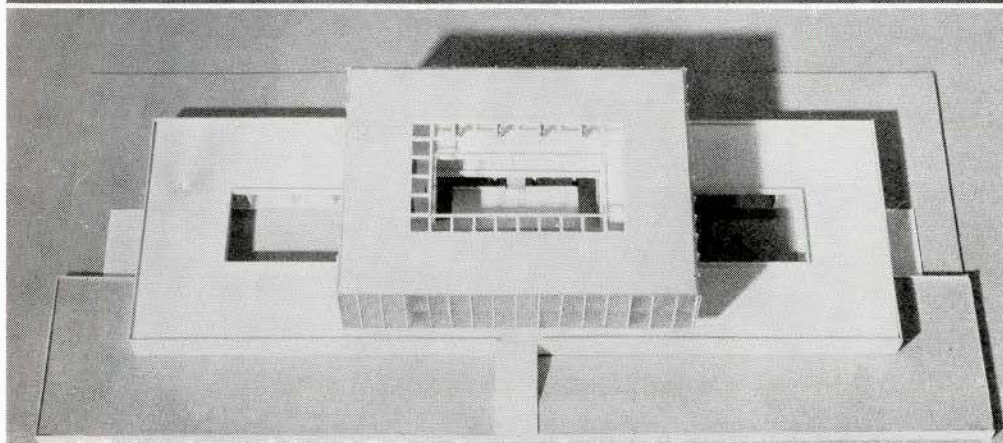
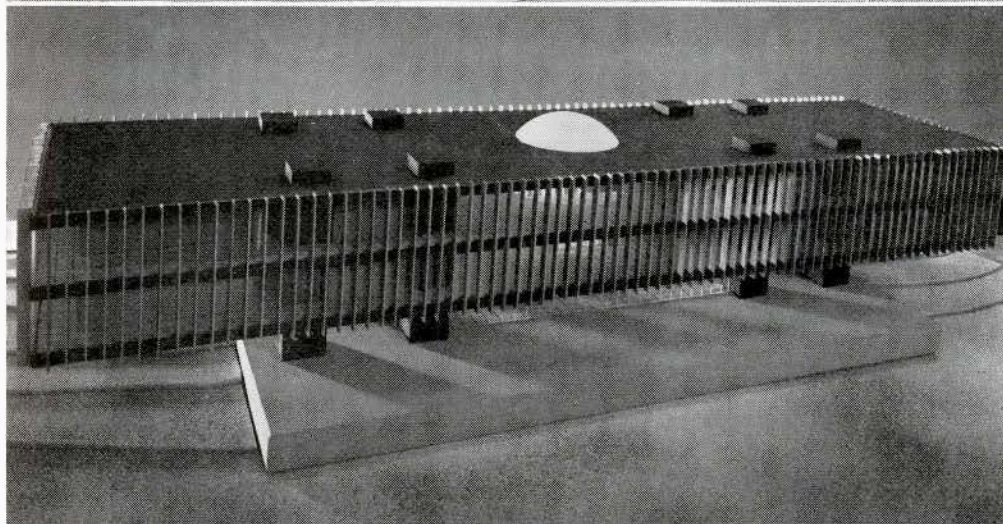
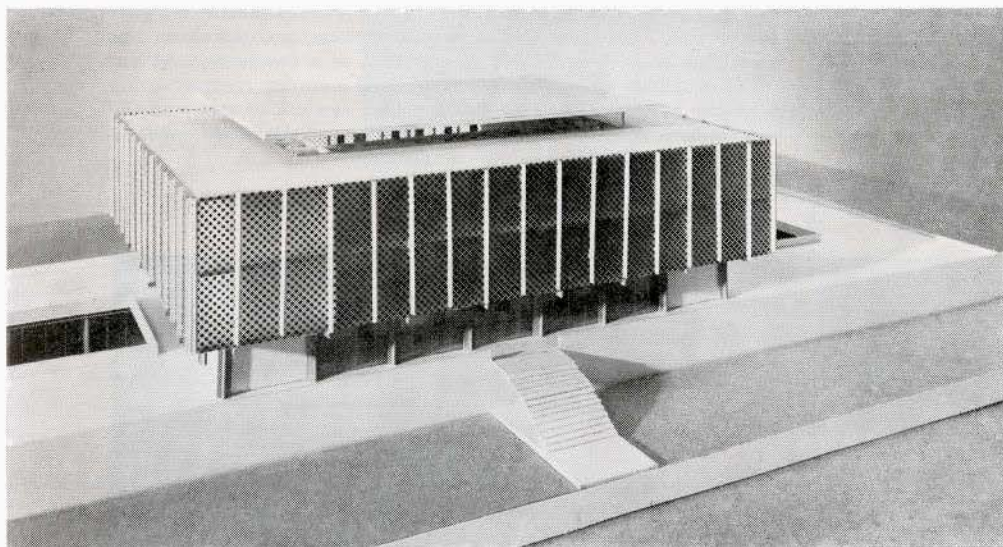
Below, three elevations of a house whose origins may be found in rural Ontario.



ART GALLERY

Fifth Year

Time, four weeks



This problem has been based upon the requirements of the art gallery director. Two sites have been suggested, allowing the students to see parallel solutions.

Discussions with artists and directors served as a lesson with a real client. The complex character of requirements both in size and need served as a fine vehicle for a major problem.

One important factor in such a problem is that it involves the student in the task of gathering material on a major topic of cultural and social need in his community. As well, it provides an active participation with groups of people preparing the crystalization of a program for final realisation.

The illustrations indicated are on the same site, namely between the Assiniboine River and the Parliament Buildings to the north. The problem confronting the student was the creation of a substantial foil in form of a relatively small building to the monumentality of the provincial headquarters. The site was long and narrow. This did not, however, determine the shape of the structure. It was felt that a building of this type must create a wall at the termination of the north south axis. The solutions shown indicate two divergent methods of solving this siting condition. One by the wall, namely, the building being raised with clearance beneath. The other creating a podium wall upon which was placed the gallery proper. Although different in plan and massing, the examples succeed in indicating forceful solutions to this difficult task.

URBAN REDEVELOPMENT

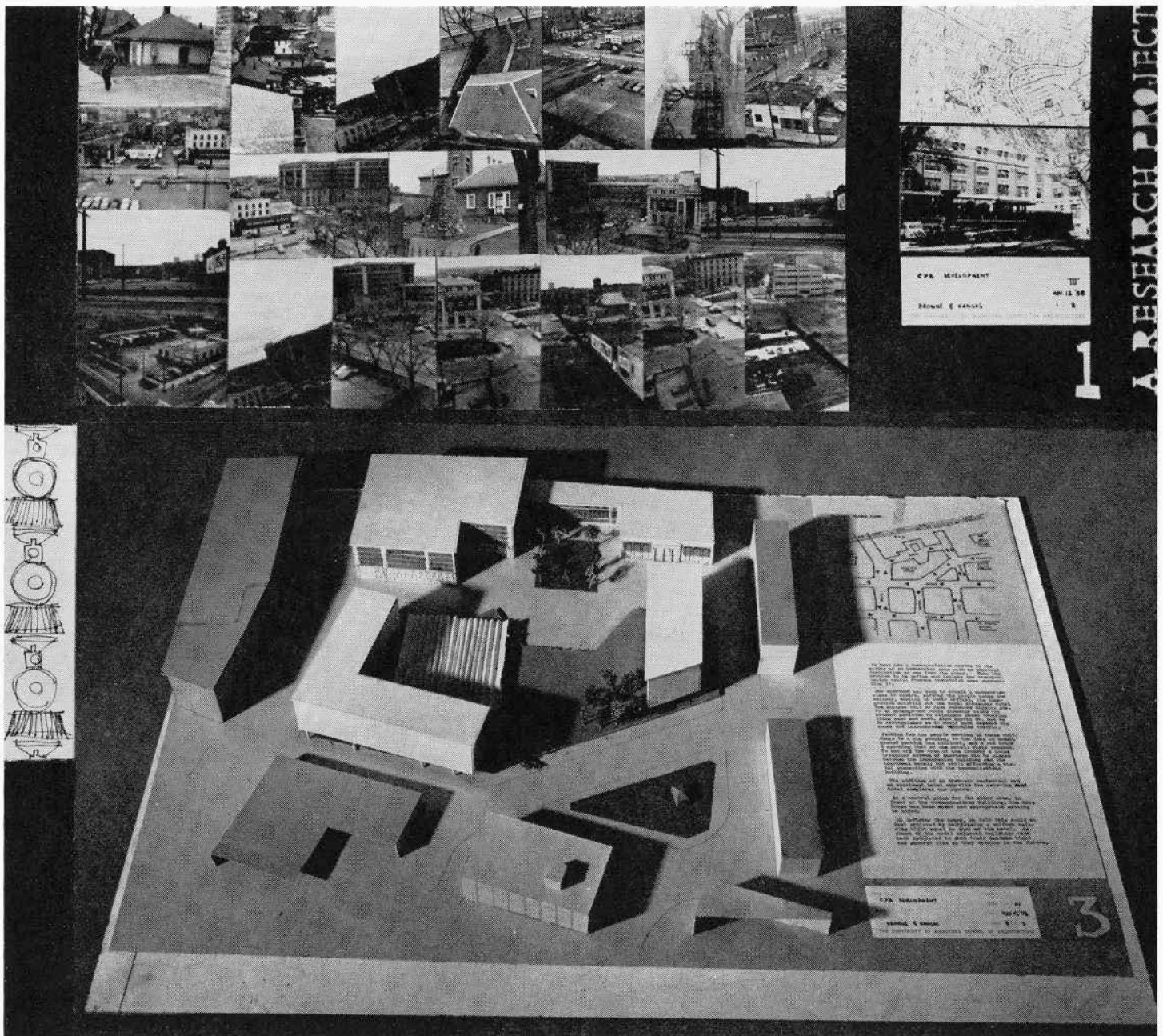
Fourth Year

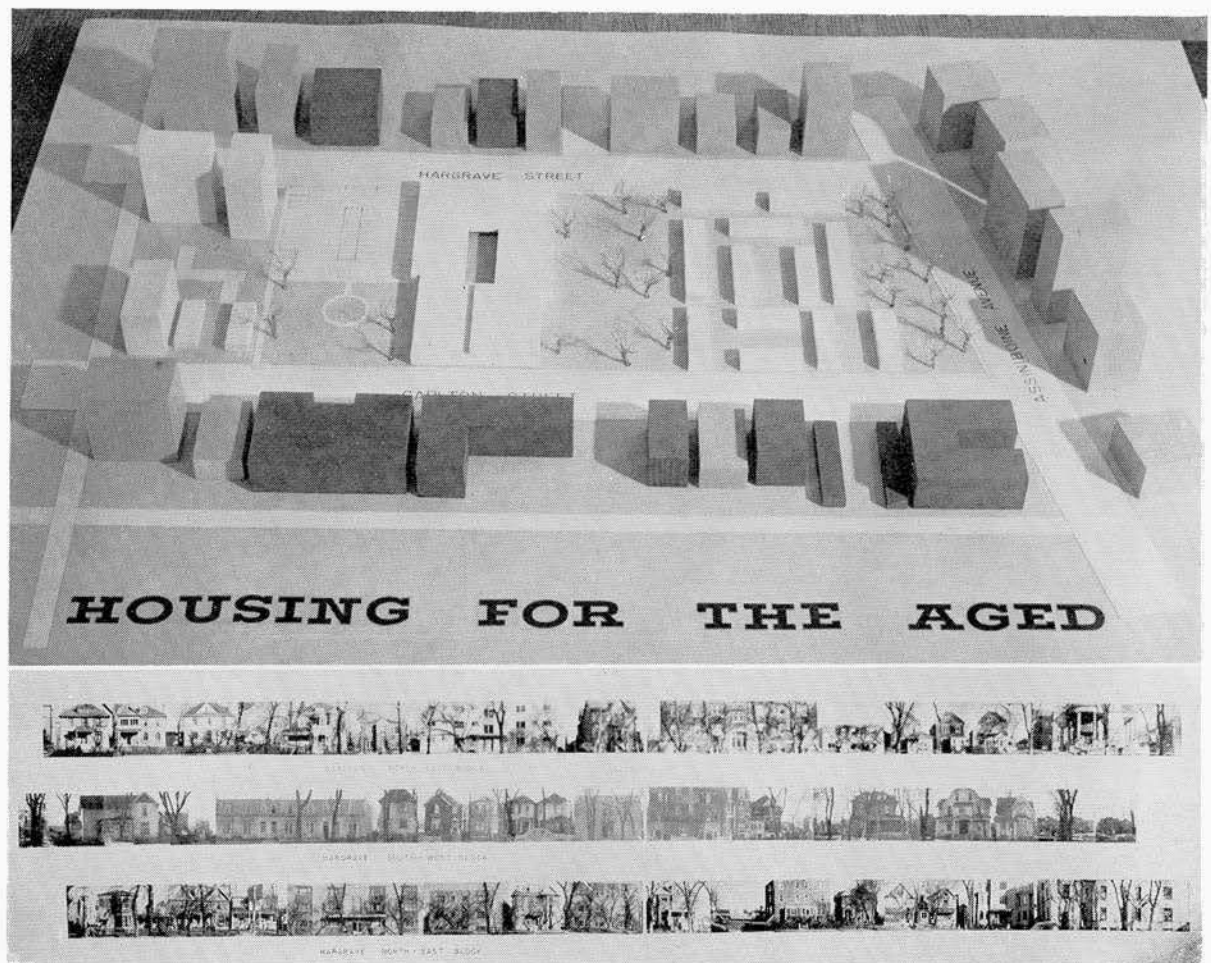
*Time, one week for research;
five weeks for development*

The city, macrocosm of our century, sadly deteriorating into a futile dissolution of entity, is an anathema to the student. They were required to make a conscientious re-examination of a selected area to discover the nature of its being and to suggest a way towards revitalization of its inherent spirit.

Much of a city's quality must lie in the integrity of its character, developed out of the immediate needs and demands of its people. Can redevelopment create a vital expression of the continuous urban way without destroying the psychological comfort of the intuitive polyphonous unity of anonymous growth.

This developed into a program for the redevelopment of a part of the city, small enough for precise architectural definition but just large enough to enable the creation of a comprehensive environment into a sophisticated residential complex commensurate with the nature of the city dweller. One can ask of many of the submissions, is this a knowing revitalization of the urban spirit or merely a demanding absolute composition.





HOUSING FOR THE AGED

Architecture does not exist without man; the human condition governs all building. The position of the aged is comparatively recent as a major problem in the structure of society. For this reason a major research study was made of all the aspects of the problems of the aged — psychological, economic, sociological as well as the study of preceding organizations and pure planning research.

Psychological:

SECURITY . . . the institution as a guarantee of continuous importance.

INDEPENDENCE . . . fear of burdening families; can they feel independent in an institution — yes, if it is of their choosing.

IMPORTANCE . . . the need for assurance of their usefulness; appreciation of their age by themselves.

PREJUDICE . . . discomfort in the face of the unfamiliar.

FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN . . . misconceptions; disdain for charity.

Economic:

Only 28% of the old age group are self-supporting. Employment for the aged is scarce. As the era develops the median age is rising. Financing can be based on the government, private organizations and the church.

Sociological:

The aged must be housed so that they continue as active citizens in the community, having a sense of independence, of safety and of comfort. Able persons have no desire for segregation from their community. The natural "Three generation balance" of a community should be maintained, but this is a geographical rather than an architectural unit. There is the need for adequate care for the infirm.

This problem was to introduce the student to some of the many contemporary factors confronting the architect today. In particular it dealt with an urban renewal, the effect of government legislation and their particular effects upon one group of citizens in our society.

The City of Winnipeg was studied thoroughly and a final decision as to location was agreed upon after determining all the considerations of research.

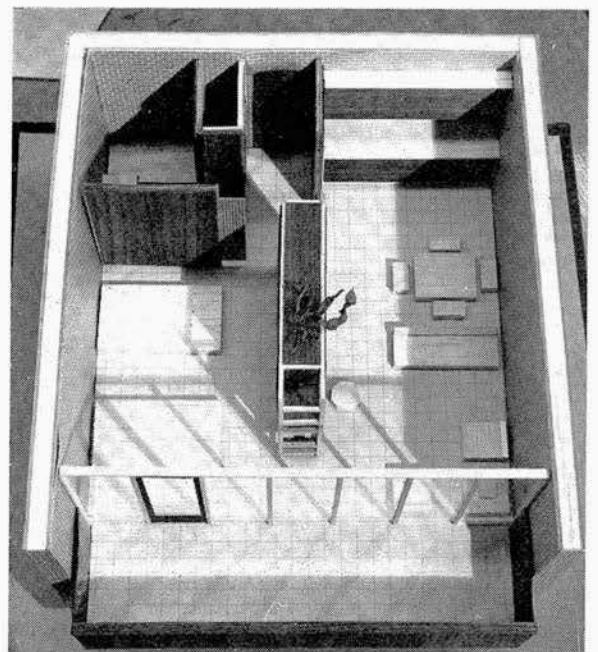
No specific density, number of inhabitants, size or height was specified. This was decided upon by the very fact that no conclusive evidence was available before or after research.

The results were gratifying in so far as that it pointed to the great dilemma in solving in three dimension a complex sociological condition now facing our society.

HOUSING FOR THE AGED

Fifth Year

*Time, one week for research;
five weeks for development*





NEW TOWNS IN THE NORTH

Fifth Year

Time, six weeks

The great expansion of Northern Manitoba has led to the immediate establishment of entire satellite units. Extensive work by the mining company and local planners provided the students with invaluable information.

The importance of such a planning study was two fold. On one hand, a truly new town and on the other hand a totally new environment of the north and all its contingent requirements.

The basic perimeter road was taken from the planning and engineering report, however, the method of subdivision was a student problem.

The most important challenge was the design with reference to all of the natural factors of such a northern settlement. These factors embrace wind, snow, permafrost, long nights, lack of vegetation, the need of south light.



Above, master plan of Thompson Townsite

At right, proposed multiple family housing



INTRODUCTION

This study was undertaken in accord with an agreement between the City of Winnipeg, the University of Manitoba, and Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Although in its present form it is a general planning study, it originally grew out of the desire of citizens to improve housing conditions for low-income families in the City of Winnipeg. A number of previous studies had been undertaken with this end in view. The Welfare Council of Greater Winnipeg in particular felt that inferior housing had an intensely aggravating influence on social conditions for a class of families who already had to cope with poverty and insecurity of employment and social position.

In the fall of 1953 the Winnipeg ratepayers voted down a public housing project. Shortly after that in 1954, a committee consisting of members of the Welfare Council of Greater Winnipeg and augmented by representatives from other organisations requested the city council to study 'the exact nature of the housing problem' through investigation of one sample area in the City of Winnipeg. The area chosen as a sample area was the one which the 1951 census showed to be most severely affected by overcrowding. The area showed the highest incidence of multiple use of single family dwellings.

A house-to-house survey was conducted of this area. It included census tracts 19 and 22 of the 1951 census, an area bounded to the north by the C.P.R. tracks and to the south by Notre Dame Avenue, with Main Street as its eastern boundary and Sherbrook Street as the western boundary.

It should be remembered that this area was chosen as a sample area, not as the only one affected by blight and overcrowding. In fact, it is well known that other sections of the city have very similar problems.

The report was to recommend types of housing units considered most suitable for families of low income, to determine the lowest possible dwelling unit costs, including buildings, services and land, and finally to suggest the kind of land and locations which might be chosen for such housing. The information gained from the survey of the City's Emergency Housing Department was to be taken as a basis of this report in regard to income of families, present rents paid and family characteristics.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

- A) Assembling data of the social, economic, and physical conditions of an area bounded by Main Street, Sherbrook Street, Notre Dame Avenue and the Canadian Pacific Railway Yards in the City of Winnipeg.
- B) Preparing one or more proposals for the rehabilitation and redevelopment of the area, which proposals shall include a study of the relocation requirements of the families in the area, the best re-use of the land and methods of disposal of such land for redevelopment and an analysis of cost.

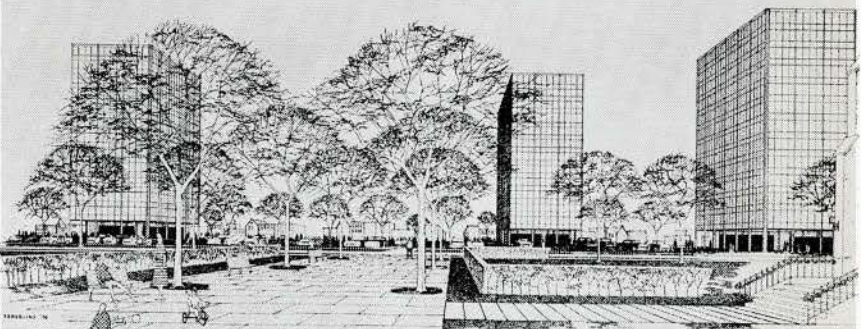
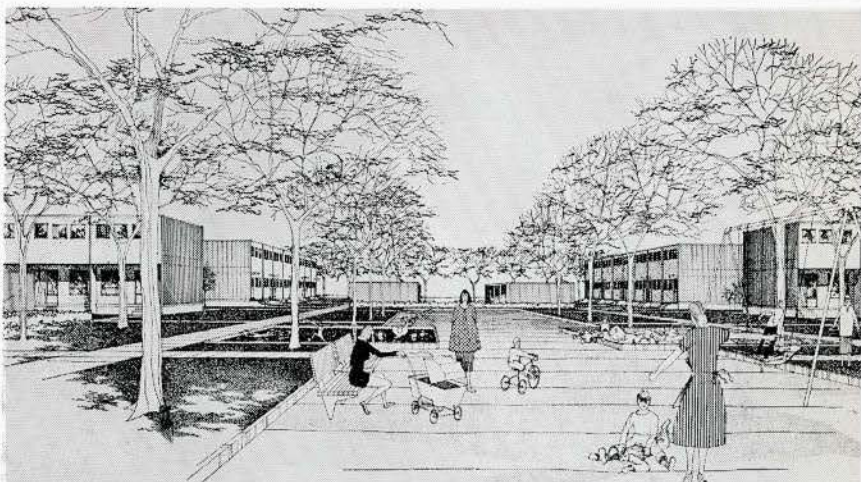
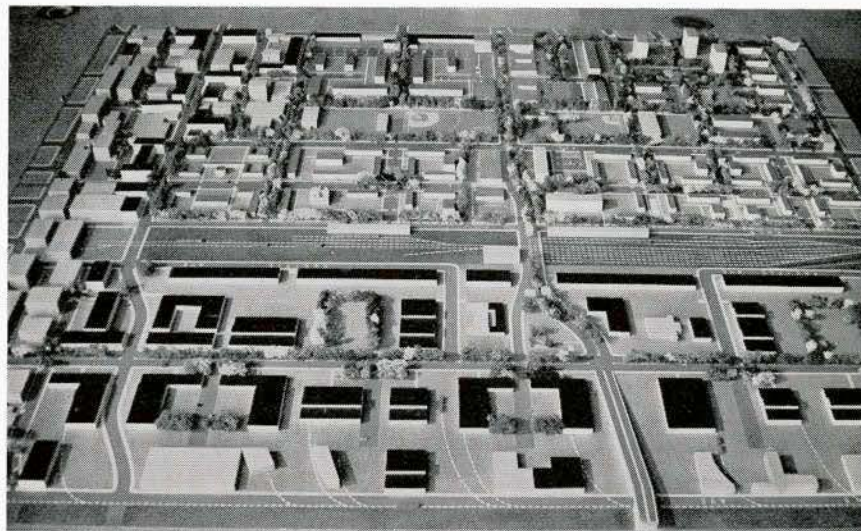
At the time when this program was proposed there was no precedent for this type of study in Canada. 'Rebuilding a Neighborhood' by Leonard C. Marsh, a study of the Transcona area in Vancouver, prepared in

1951, comes perhaps closest to the type of study we envisioned for the C.P.R.-Notre Dame area. There were of course a number of slum clearance studies, but these were of a somewhat different nature and scope. Even the Transcona Vancouver study was concerned only with a residential area to be cleared and rebuilt as a residential area, and therefore remained largely a housing study, rather than a planning study. Before the amendments to the National Housing Act were introduced, assistance from the Dominion Government for clearing projects was obtainable only where land was re-used for housing or other public purposes.

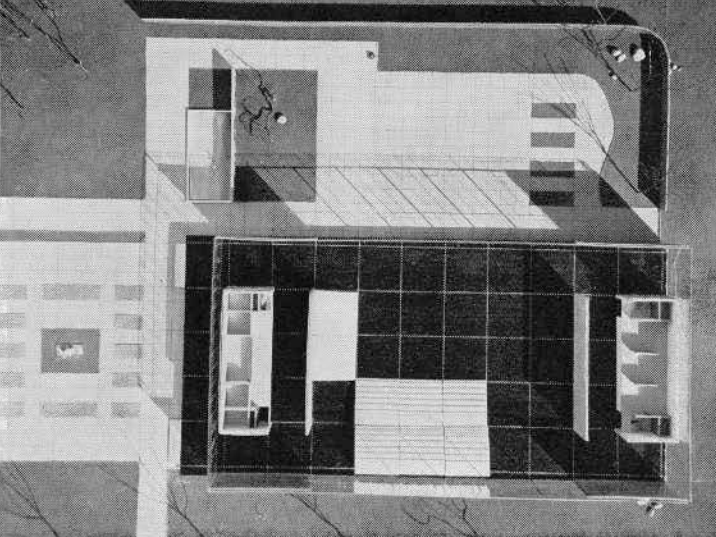
LIMITATIONS OF STUDY

Because the project was a new one and because of the lack of some basic information which could not be obtained from this study, we realise that much needs to be done to complete it properly. Many associated problems came to our attention during the process of the study, and these in fact have led to some of the recommendations made later on in this report.

There exists a lack of general planning of land development for the metropolitan area, based on estimated general city development for the next twenty-five years. This planning is needed to make a precise land use study of specific areas in the city. Such a study would also be of great help to any future metropolitan government.



A black and white photograph of a modern building's exterior. The building features a large, flat, light-colored roof and a dark, grid-patterned facade. The building is surrounded by a paved area and some trees. The image is oriented horizontally on the page.



This thesis is by the nature of the program primarily concerned with research, analysis, and solution of the technological and planning problems rather than with the production of a total architectural entity.

THESIS

Monastery

w. j. toporek

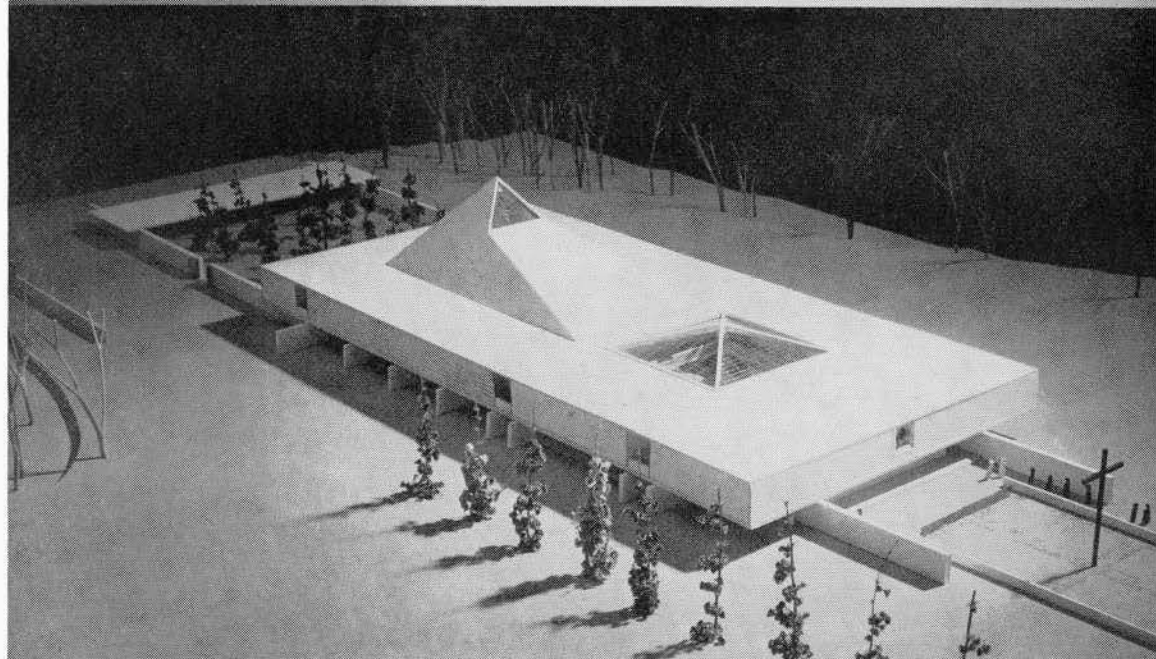
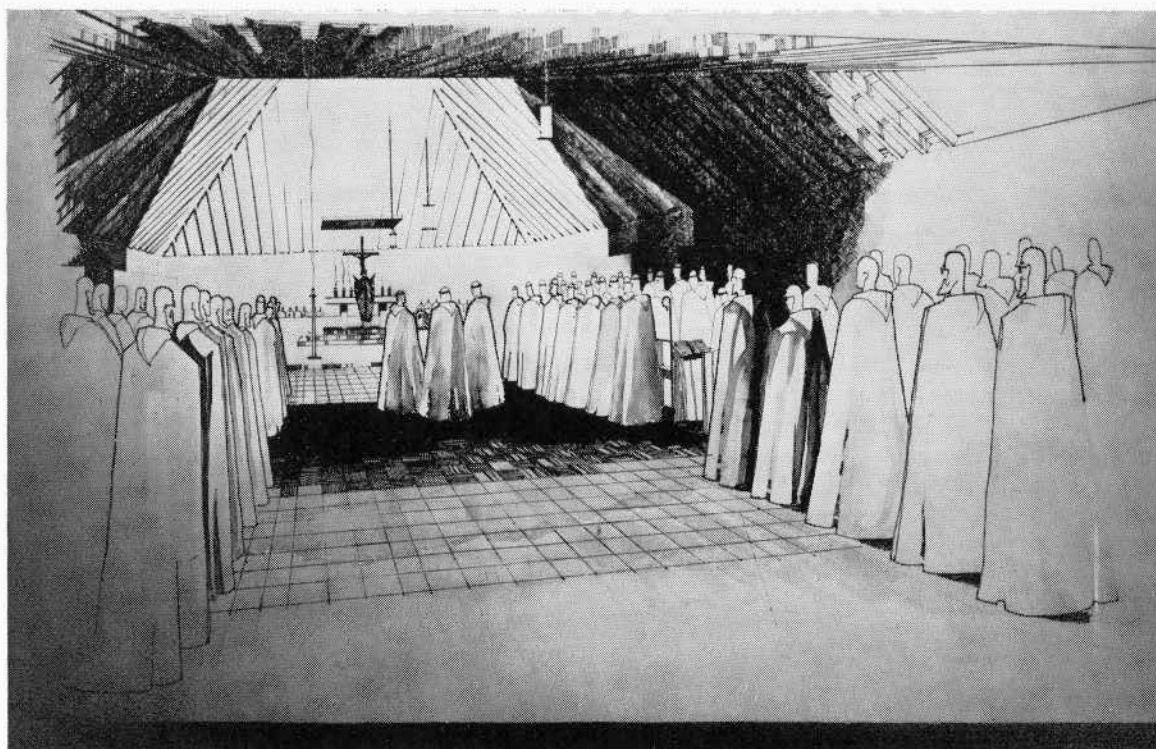
This thesis deals with the establishment of a monastery for the Cistercian Order of the Strict Observance (Trappists). This order has in its great heritage direct roots from the Benedictine Monks.

The unique character of this order arises out of attitudes towards austerity, contemplation and manual labour.

The Cistercian Order exists economically on an agricultural basis, hence of the utmost necessity is a fertile, agricultural land; the Red River Valley is among the great fertile areas on this continent.

The solution shows in a clearly functional manner the symbolic separation of activities – the lower portions reaching out and embracing the fields beyond, the upper portion, on a different physical and spiritual plane, more introverted and culminating in the symbolic chapel roof form.

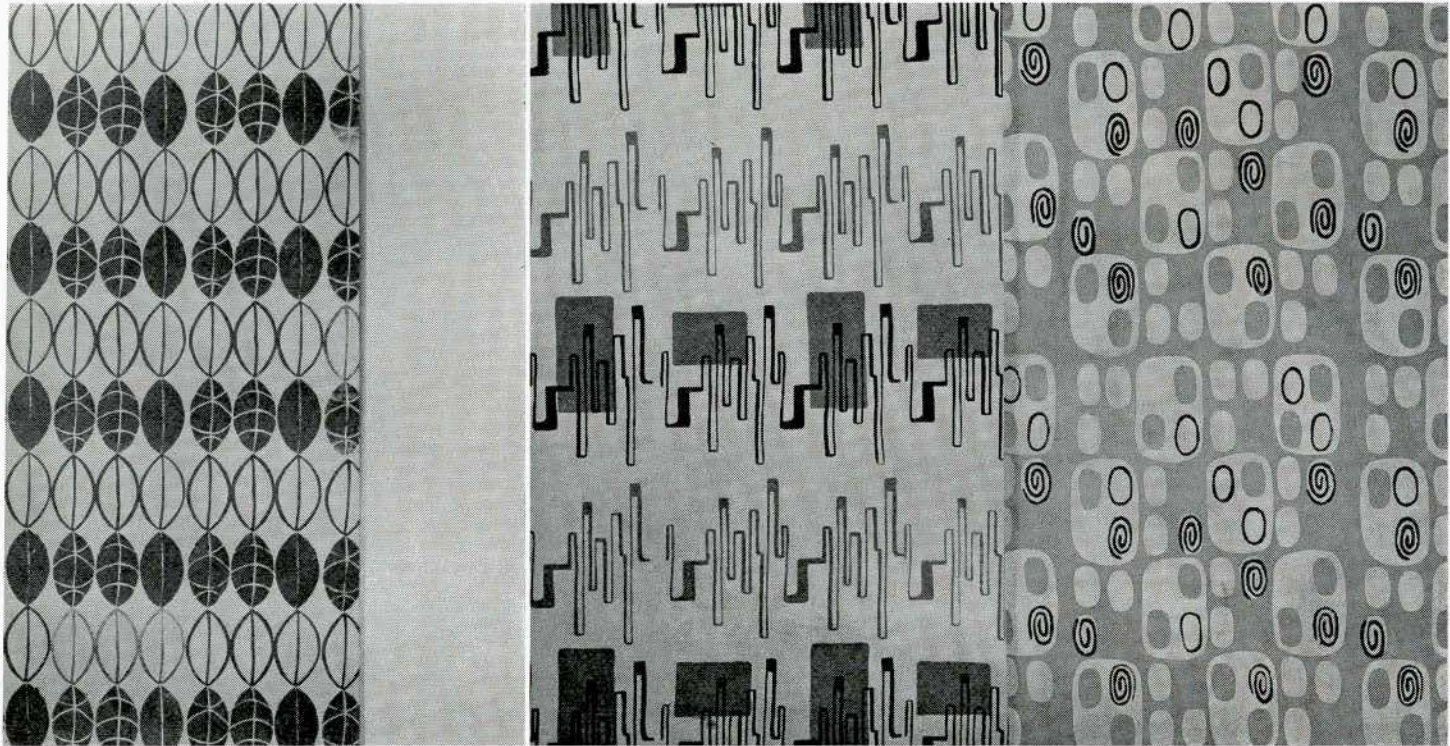
— *Excerpts from the author's thesis*



INTERIOR DESIGN

again we begin at the beginning . . . with examination of the interiors . . . articulating elements of light, form, pattern . . . studying their uses and techniques . . .

there is an everpresent danger of overdesign, of lack of humour . . . the design of interiors should be associated with a profound appreciation of the human character as well as of the demands of a basic and sophisticated aesthetic.



A Mural, 15' x 45' for the important wall in a Cocktail Lounge.

Furniture to be kept back at least 10'.

Materials — painted wall with wood veneer, and metal.

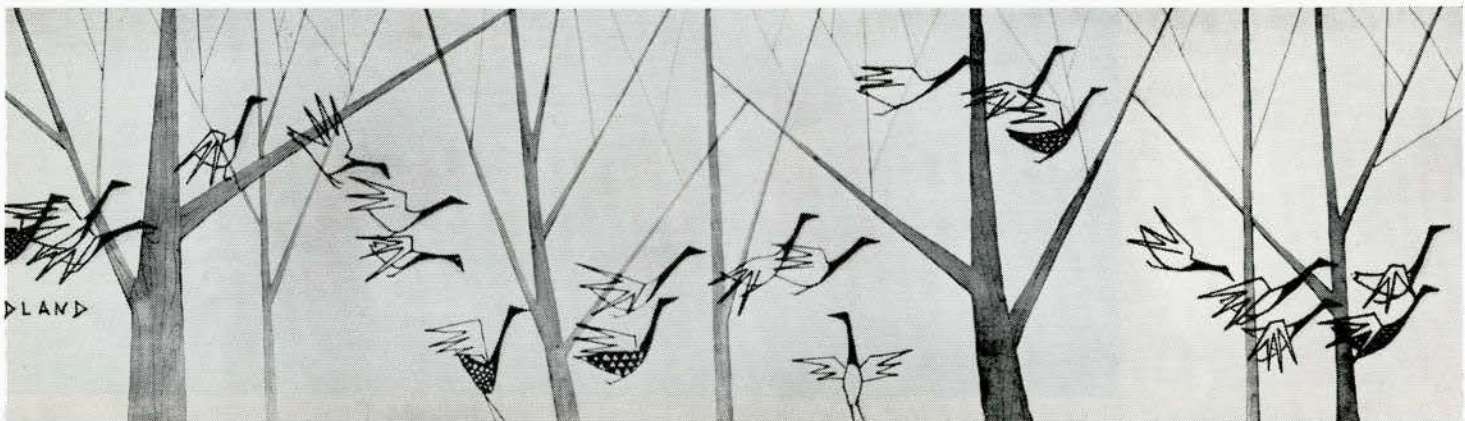
Lighting — from panel in ceiling.

The first 6' at the left to be seen upon entrance to building where wall projects into hall. This to form a unit and yet to lead into rest of wall treatment in room.

BIRDLAND

Third Year Interior Design

Time, three days

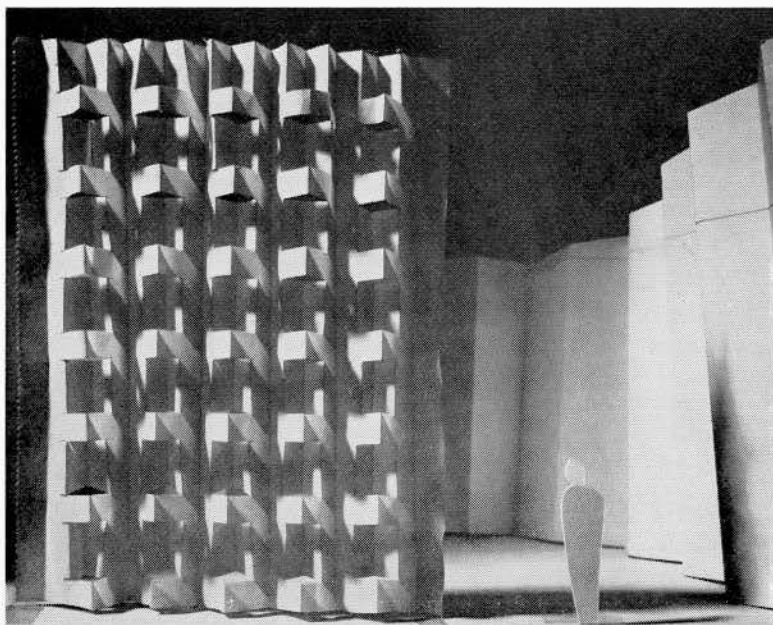


PATTERN DESIGNS

First Year Interior Design

Silk-screen prints on textile. Reading from far left, the basis for an abstract pattern of drapery had to come from the photo of a recognizable object, in this case, corn on the cob.

Silk-screen prints on textile. Reading from far left, photo of a recognizable object, in this case, corn on the cob, formed the basis for an abstract pattern of drapery. Colour is yellow ochre, black and white. Development of line and area studies formed the basis of patterns. Consideration was given both to flat pattern and to the effect when curtain is hung in folds. Colour is sage green and black on natural linen.

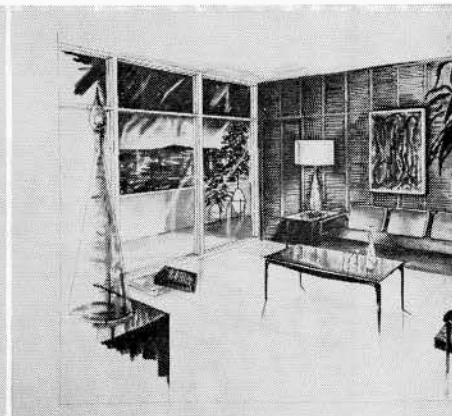
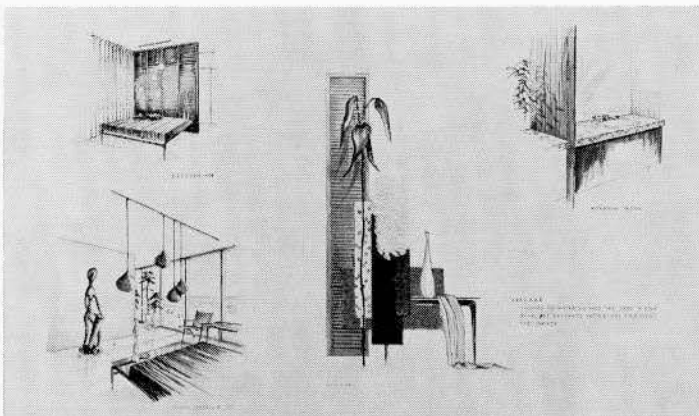
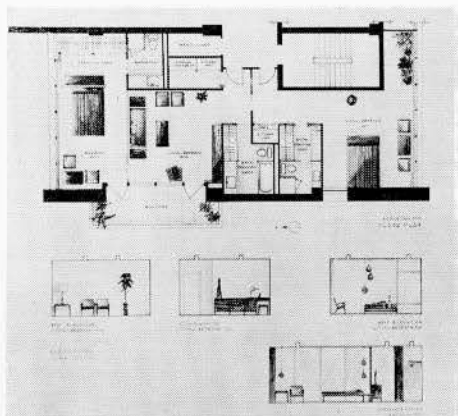


PAPER FOLD

Fourth Year Interior Design

Time, six hours

By means of folded, pierced, cut, white paper, to experiment with the possibilities of screens, curtain walls, ceiling forms, emphasis on originality and interesting pattern-texture, through shape and light. To be self supporting, but exercise not translated into actual interior materials.



RESORT HOTEL SUITE

Fourth Year Interior Design

Time, four weeks

Hotel to be situated in semi-tropical climate, on ocean shore in the suburbs of a city. Northern guests are attracted by sunny climate, surf swimming, etc. Apartment to be rented either as 2-bedroom suite or as suite and separate bedroom.

Analysis by student

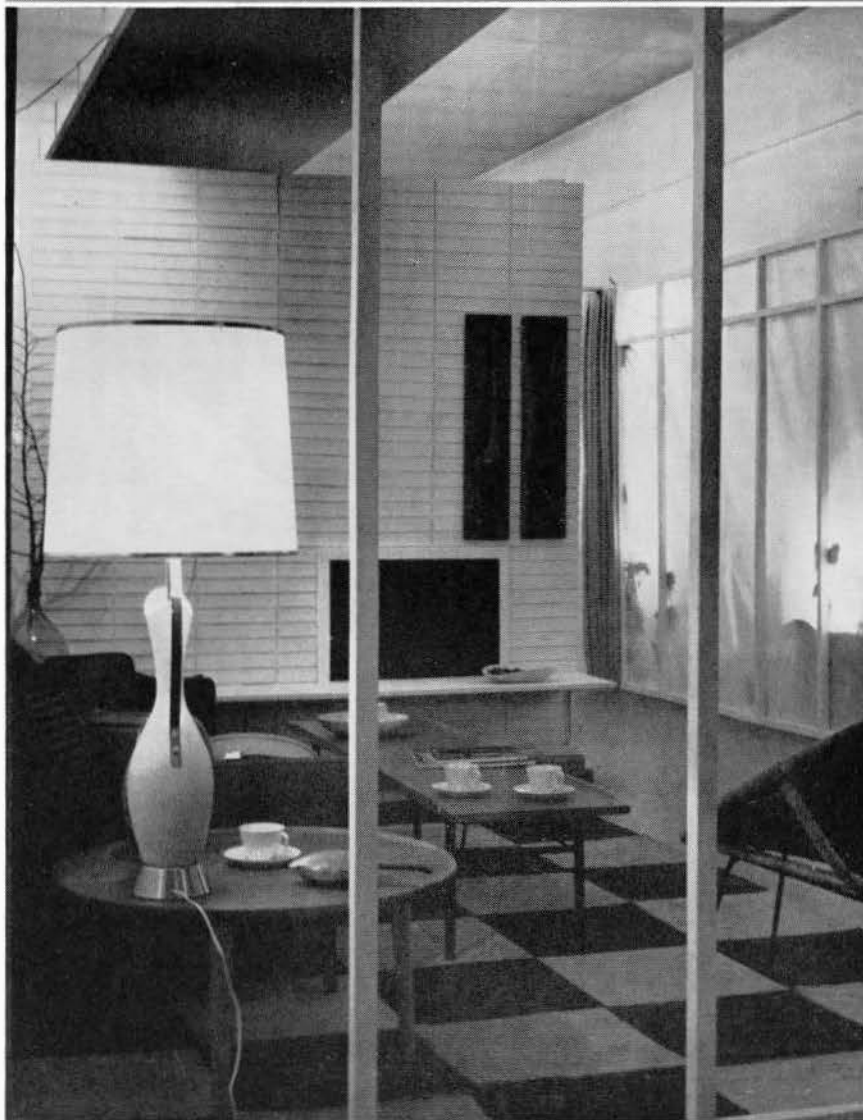
Character — informal and relaxing as the climate would suggest.
Colours — mostly cool blues and greens to provide relief from heat and humidity.

Materials — generally smooth textures, tile, closely woven textiles, louvred wooden screens.

Accessories — sculpture, pottery, etc., with primitive native motifs.



WINNIPEG AT HOME



An exhibition arranged by the second year class in the School of Interior Design. This display is a study of the organization of living spaces, their wall and floor coverings, furniture arrangement and selection.

GRADUATE STUDIES IN COMMUNITY PLANNING

Graduate studies in planning were initiated in 1951. Candidates for admission must have a Bachelors Degree in Architecture or Civil Engineering.

There are two sets of prescribed courses; one for Architects and one for Engineers, each nominally occupying one academic year. The former includes Municipal Engineering and the latter considerable government and social studies. The curriculum includes regular visits to public and private planning offices, as well as exercises in research methods, field reporting and map making. The thesis may be presented within seven years following registration in the course. It is possible for practising professionals to complete the course in three or four part-time years while employed in their own profession.

For administrative purposes the staff is attached to the School of Architecture; academically the connexion is with the School of Graduate Studies. The contributing departments are: Architecture, Civil Engineering, Government Economics, and Sociology. Of twenty-one entrants to the courses, fifteen held degrees in Architecture. Twenty-one candidates have been graduated, most of whom are now employed in planning offices.

Within the school an informal emphasis placed on the problems of civic design and the meaning of urban forms currently in vogue architecturally, as well as on the technical, economic, and social problems immediately important to the planner.

Those who complete the course, receive either the degree of M. Arch (Community Planning) or M. Sc. (Community Planning) depending on their prior qualifications. Theses vary widely in subject matter, but the majority are concerned with the various aspects of neighbourhood and residential planning. A list of theses is obtainable from the planning school.

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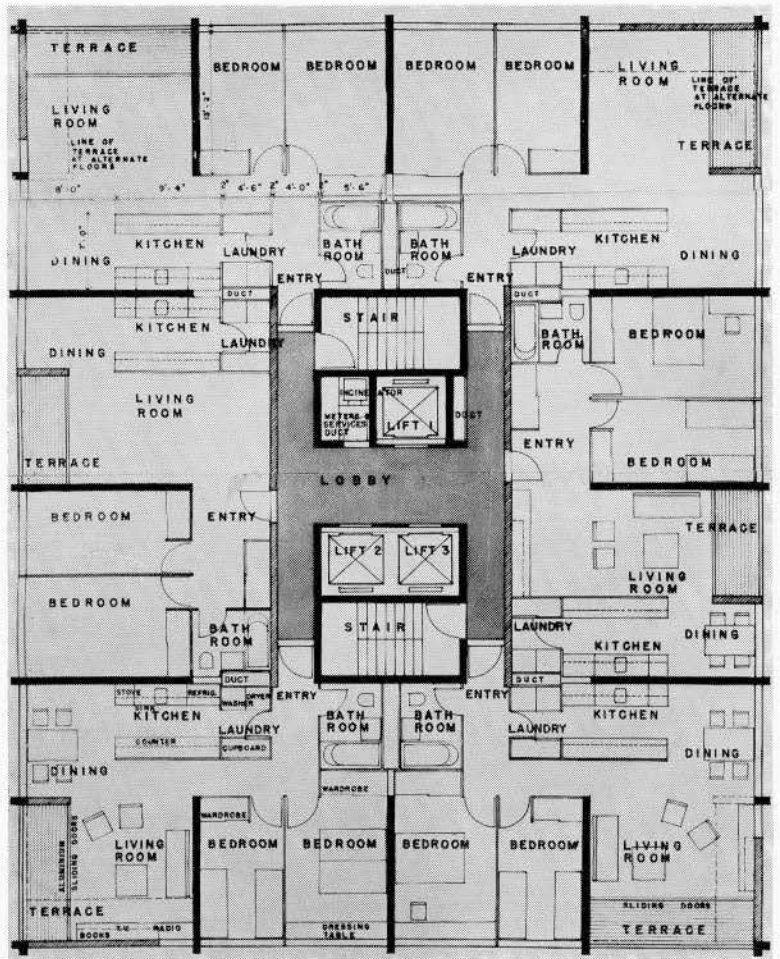
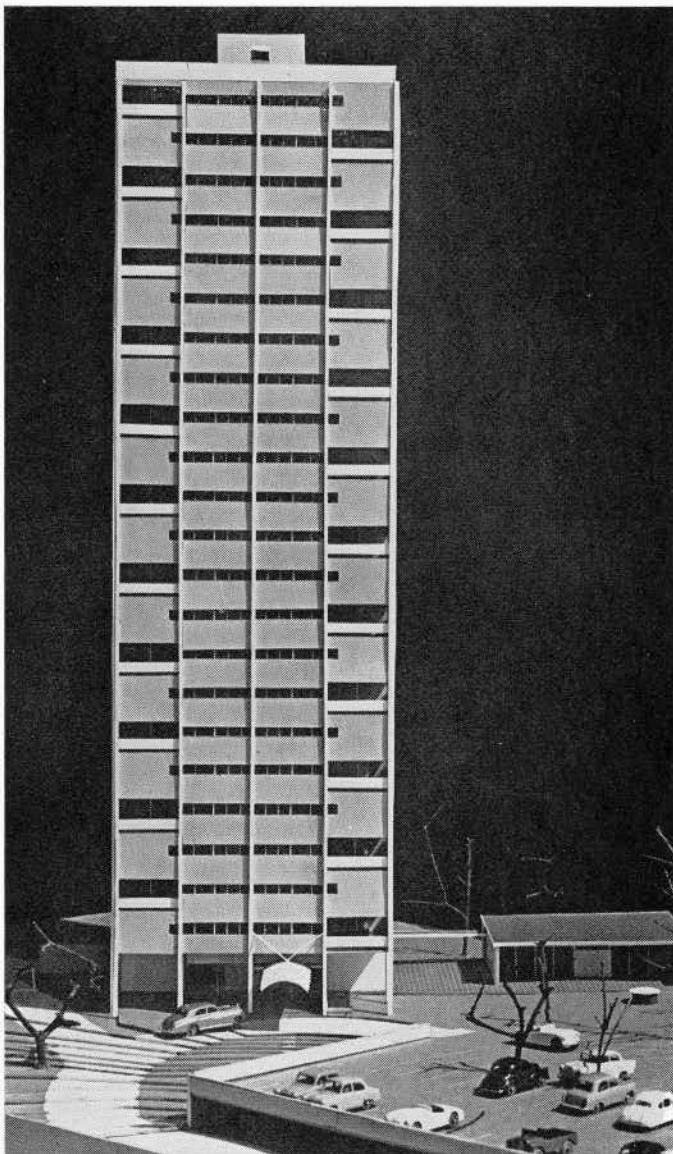
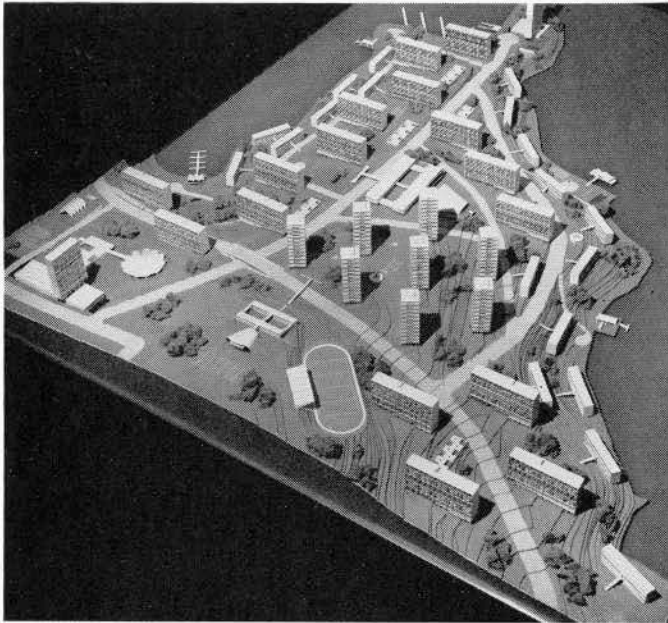
RECENT PROJECTS BY HARRY SEIDLER ARAIA

Seidler was born in 1923 in Vienna, Austria. He began his Architecture studies at Cambridge, England, before coming to Winnipeg. He received his Bachelor of Architecture in 1944, from the School of Architecture, University of Manitoba. He subsequently studied under Walter Gropius at Harvard where he received the degree of Master of Architecture in 1946. He worked in the offices of Marcel Breuer and Oscar Niemeyer before setting up a private practice in Sydney, Australia in 1948. In the last ten years, Seidler has been involved in a wide variety and scale of projects. The following survey of his recent developments will serve to illustrate his wide ranging interests in the field of Architecture.

His early work is compiled in the book "Houses, Interiors and Projects", published in Sydney, Australia, by Associated General Publications.

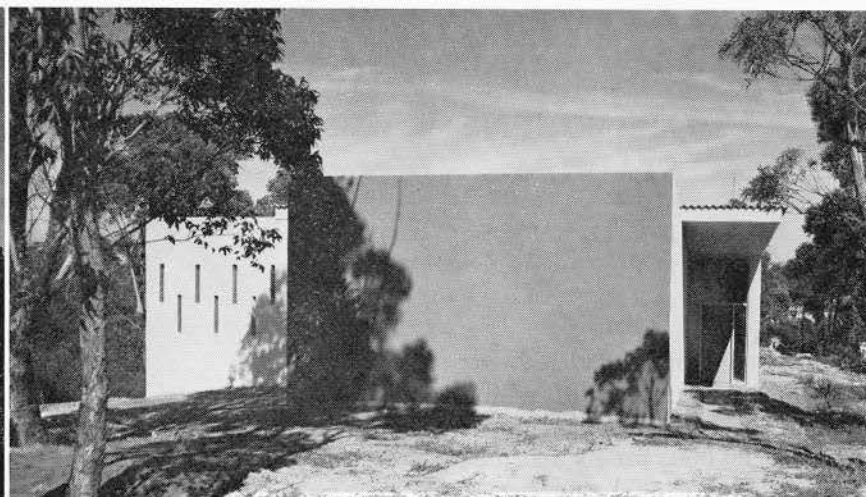
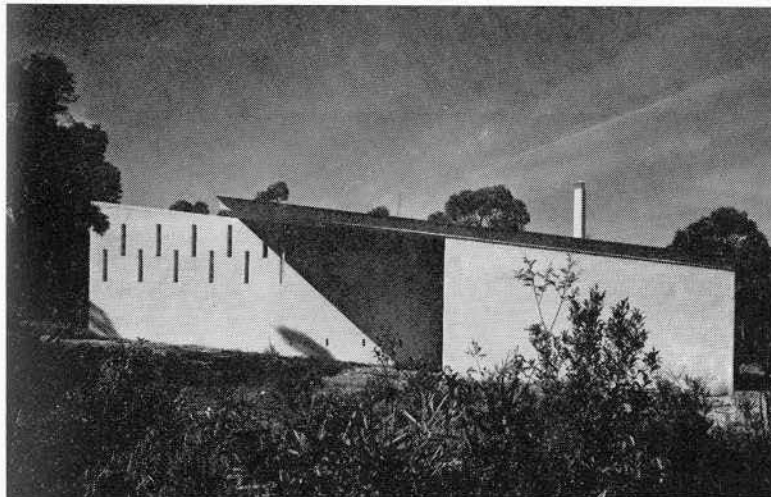
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT

An urban redevelopment program proposed by a group of Australian architects and planners, including Mr Seidler. The proposal suggests redevelopment of a spectacular site, McMahons Point, overlooking Sydney Harbour, from mixed commercial-residential to high density residential (150 persons per acre). The total project includes libraries, schools, restaurants, shopping and recreational facilities. Below is illustrated one of the twenty-storey tower units.



Left, front elevation of tower apartment house

Above, typical floor plan



HOUSE

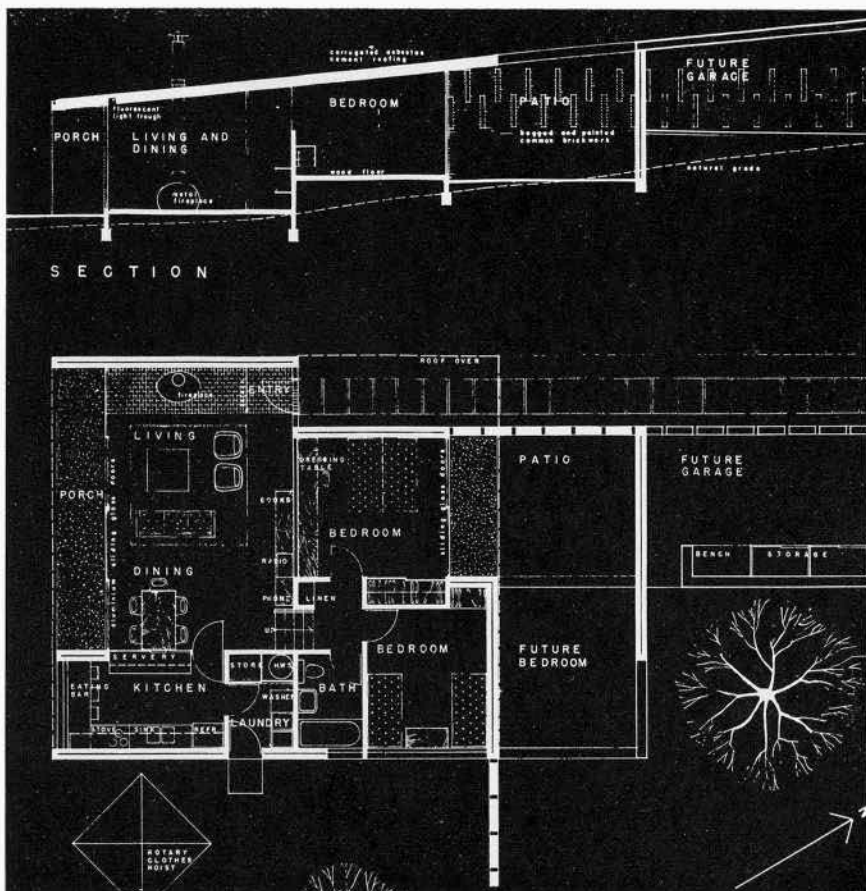


The site is in a bushland suburb with a slope away from the street and a view on the back over a reserve. The orientation is such that the view is to the south away from the sun and the street side is on the north.

The solution placed on this block a split-level house with the living, dining and kitchen section on the lower portion overlooking the view, and the bedrooms on the higher section toward the street and the sun. In order to gain the advantages of the northern sun for the lower level living area, the two levels were merged by opening the main bedroom spatially into the living area, with a continuous ceiling surface and a parapet height wall in the bedroom only. This made it possible to see the view from the main bedroom, and yet be perfectly private from vision of the lower floor.

The plan allows for a future expansion, whereby a third bedroom and a garage can be added to the north end of the house, making an enclosed courtyard of the present patio.

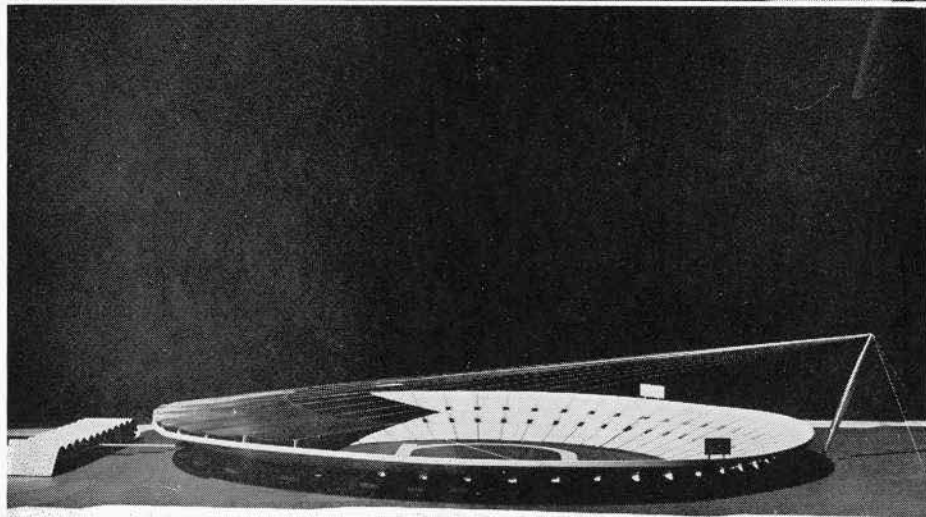
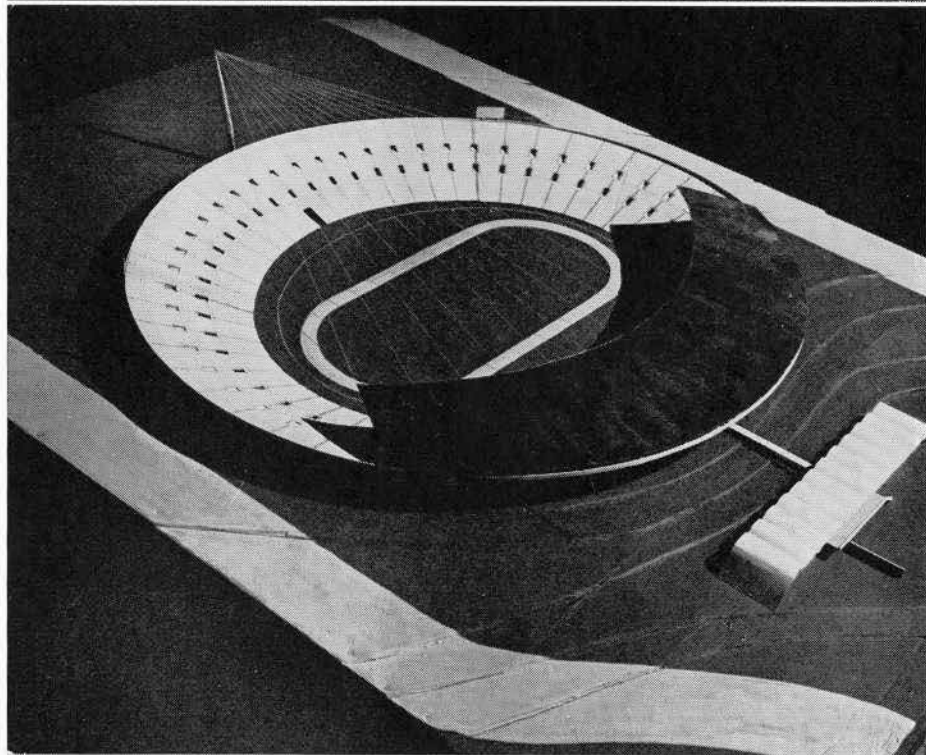
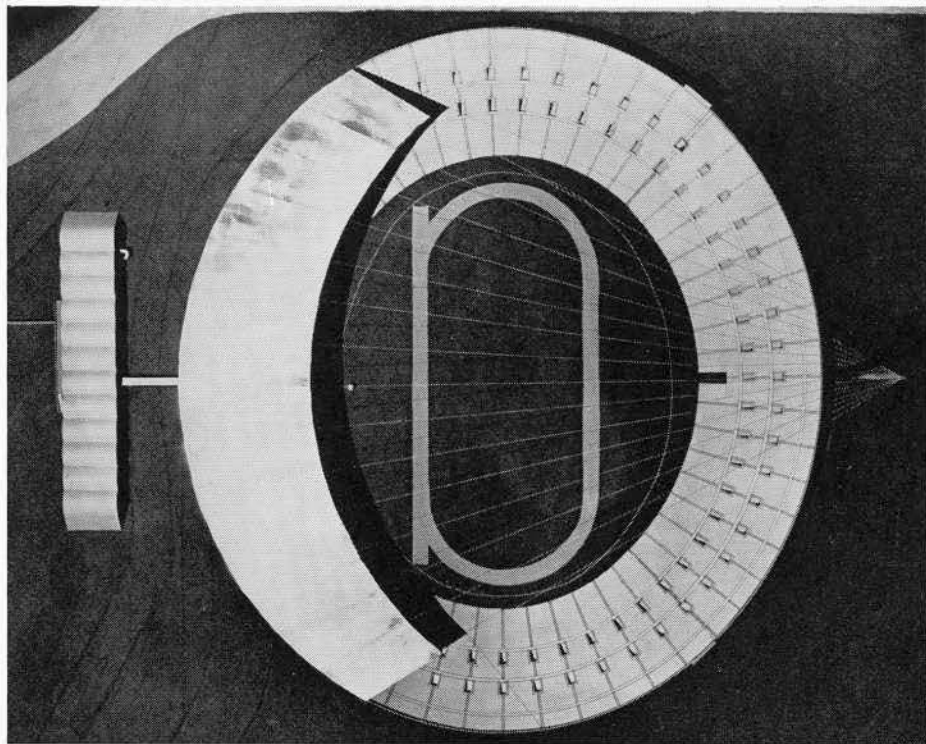
The plan has a total area of 1200 square feet for the first stage. Economy of construction is achieved by the use of simple standard materials, painted common brickwork, corrugated asbestos roofing, aluminum, and glass.



MELBOURNE STADIUM

1956 OLYMPIAD

The program provided for 125,000 spectators, of which 30,000 were to be seated under cover, 20,000 seated without cover, and 75,000 standing. A restaurant and administration building complete the complex. The stadium itself is a tension ring bowl composed of cast concrete sections, held in compression by post-tension steel rings. The roof cover is a light canopy suspended by tension cables running to the monumental 'Marathon Tower', the theme feature of the 1956 Olympiad.



AN ADDRESS

By Dr Thomas Howarth

AT THE SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE OAA

MR PRESIDENT, DR PEVSNER, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. It is indeed an honour to be invited to address this distinguished company, an honour I appreciate all the more as a very new, New Canadian. I only regret that my wife cannot be with me to share this further expression of the great kindness and hospitality you have extended to us since we came among you six months ago.

As I am sure you will appreciate, the immigrant has many problems to face in adjusting to a new way of life and a new environment, especially if a young family is involved. One problem, admittedly a minor one for the British, is that of language, and it seems to me that if the Native Sons of Canada demand a different National Anthem and a new flag, then the British in turn should insist upon a clear differentiation between the English and American languages. For example an Englishman soon runs into difficulties — a car's bonnet is its hood, its hood a soft top, its boot a trunk — and to my surprise in the U.S.A. I learned that a bumper could be that part of a child's anatomy that was specifically designed by Providence for spanking. In the technical field there are further difficulties: a term like "permafrost" seems obviously a trade name for a new kind of refrigerator, and in discussing the School's proposed program of research on housing in the far North with Mr Ian MacLennan, Chief Architect of CMHC, frequent references to a "honeywagon" led me to believe that bee-keeping must be a heavy industry in places like Aklavik and Frobisher Bay, with the bees feeding, possibly, on a plant "muskeg". Mr Legget's colleagues at the National Research Council at Ottawa soon disillusioned me however; permafrost I now find is just a nuisance, muskeg is a nasty kind of bog and there is an awful lot of it up north, and I'm afraid, Mr President, that I must refer you to Mr MacLennan for a detailed description of a honeywagon.

Dr Howarth,
Director of the
School of Archi-
tecture at the
University of To-
ronto, addressing
the meeting.



My family and I found many contrasts, of course, between life in England and North America during our visit to the U.S.A. in 1955-56, the fundamental differences were, perhaps, in concepts of time and distance, and attitudes to education. We met one student who enrolled for a course at Stanford University, California, then changed her mind and took her first year at Columbia University, New York; her second year was spent at the Sorbonne, Paris; she was on her way to Edinburgh, Scotland for her third year and she would return to Columbia for her final year. She collected credits as she went, of course, and talking of credits, you may be amused to hear that one Director of a well known American School of Architecture was excused a course in Sanitation on the strength of a credit in Astronomy at Princeton.

A surprisingly small percentage (about 40% I am informed) of architectural students graduate from the university in which they commence their studies — why should they indeed, when, we are told that the average family moves house about once every five years. And talking of houses even this is not a quick enough turnover for the speculator. The latest trend, if we

are to believe a report in the *Globe and Mail* recently, is to make houses subject to rapid fashion changes like automobiles.

"It is up to us to make the consumer so dissatisfied with his house that he is going to go out and buy a new one more quickly than he would have. I am not recommending that we should cut quality, but we should temper it with realism."

Realism indeed! These astonishing words were spoken by a Canadian architect, but one who had a substantial financial interest in a building firm.

This restlessness and search for security is one of the maladies of our times, reflected in too early marriages, too frequent divorce and cars that change shape each year. Since architecture reflects something of the spirit of an age it is not surprising that novelty, originality and flights of the imagination rather than the enduring values of harmony, beauty, repose and the appreciation of fine things, are the qualities most admired by many of our young people. It may be argued of course that we are passing through a difficult period of transition when, as always in history, the old values are being challenged and new ones are not clearly established.

Thus at the end of a long tour one's memory of the fine things in North America, the Blue Smokeys, or the Everglades, the Mojave Desert, the Grand Tetons and the Rockies; Charleston, New Orleans, and San Francisco; and work of Wright and the Chicago School, McKim Mead and White; Maybeck and the Greens on the West Coast, and the young Americans Rudolph, Rapson and the rest, is overlaid by the recollection of this visual chaos and, mind you, visual chaos created within the last two or three decades.

This kind of thing is not peculiar to North America. In Britain too, we've had the same kind of problem but on a much smaller scale. The irreparable damage done to many of our towns and villages by haphazard, ill-conceived housing projects, advertising, concrete lamp-posts and so forth, prompted the *Architectural Review's* special issue "Outrage" in which the responsible local authorities were named, and which overnight roused a storm of controversy across the country.

And Mr John Betjeman, whose recent book "Collected Poems" has quickly become a best seller, a doughty fighter against a lethargic general public and indifference in high places, writes (if I may be permitted to use a rude word, Mr President)

"Dear old, bloody old England, Of telegraph poles
and tin, Seemingly so indifferent, And with so little
soul to win".

You may well ask why I refer to such matters as these at the end of a week when your thoughts have been turned to higher things — the "Art of the Renaissance", "Christopher Wren", "Trends in Modern Architecture" and indeed, to "The Staircase" — by one of our most brilliant lecturers. Yet while we may compliment ourselves on our magnificent heritage; our noble traditions; on many fine buildings achieved and even finer ones projected, we must admit the disturbing fact that the impact of our profession upon the city and townscape of today has not been as strong as it might have been.

You see Rewell's great sculpturesque monument to our twin local deities City and Metro will not of itself make Toronto a mecca for visitors from all over the world. Yet if this building were to be the centre of a great new project for civic and commercial rebuilding, Toronto might well become so. The crucial test of the standard of culture of this metropolis lies in the next step. Will the city fathers now go forward, and make possible the preparation of a noble plan, an imaginative concept by city architect and city planner in which an orderly development will become a practical reality, with careful consideration paid to design and the location of administrative, cultural and commercial centres; a plan in which all things will be coordinated by people with vision, vision and understand-

ing that comprehends the three-dimensional forms of things, and appreciates the human aspect of the city of the future?

With such a project the kind of absurd situation that has arisen over Fort York would be avoided because in the initial study and analysis of the city the alignment of roads would be determined in the context of the best over-all development pattern, and consideration would be given also to the preservation of buildings of historical interest as well as to the siting of new ones. The immediate traffic problem is but a single symptom of a far more serious malady for which a careful diagnosis is necessary before the cure can begin.

But you may object that this has little to do with the architect and that I should be talking either to the city fathers or the planners but, in my view, the architect is one of the key figures in modern society, and his interests should extend far beyond the creation of individual buildings important as this may be. By his training and by his very nature he is a man of many parts; an artist, a technologist, a philosopher, a designer, an administrator, but most important of all an individual who is, or should be, primarily concerned with creating an environment in which the human spirit can grow and expand.

This is all very well, of course, but the man in the street, seems to care little about the visual aspect of his environment — the changing face of the city — and one wonders if even the city fathers really appreciate the potential that lies in the architectural and planning professions. Perhaps we will have to change our attitude to public relations and be less modest in telling the world what we have to offer. Perhaps we should increase our contribution to public discussion, to lecture symposia of the kind that is taking place this weekend in Toronto "The Turbulent City". Perhaps we could persuade our television and radio planners to increase their coverage of architectural affairs and I would like to suggest to our friends of the press that as a small contribution to civic well-being, they might consider devoting one small part of their journals to a regular weekly appraisal of a city building or buildings, or even of a street. And I don't mean a report that a certain company is spending so many million dollars on a new glass-fronted edifice with a mural at five hundred dollars a square foot, but a constructive, preferably witty, maybe critical appraisal — and why not take a leaf out of the *Architectural Review's* book, and do a series of studies *Outrage in Toronto*?

In Britain I know our profession was far too busy building town halls, factories, offices and expensive individual houses before the war to concern itself unduly with the problems of low cost housing, which just didn't pay. And it looks as though similar conditions prevailed in North America. It is not surprising therefore that the subdivider and builder are no longer interested in seeking our advice. Yet I do not think we can continue to stand aside while the same old mistakes are made, and the Canadian countryside is submerged in featureless developments. Our special skills extend beyond the production of sets of standard plans to the design of whole layouts, and it is in the total concept of the subdivision, and of the new town, that we must be prepared to make a major contribution. Of course we have not yet succeeded, and could hardly be expected to succeed, in creating so soon in the 20th century a modern style of domestic architecture that is equivalent to the vernacular (that is the common architectural design language of former periods) which gave us the Cotswold villages, even the London squares, the Charlesons and the Salems, the fine farm houses of the Mid-West and Canada. Yet it should be possible to work closely with the speculative developer and produce work of high aesthetic standard that would sell. The developer certainly has nothing to lose by such an association. The RIBA held a symposium recently "Design Pays" which, in the words of an independent observer, "produced convincing evidence that when a speculative builder gives an architect a chance to make his full contribution . . . his homes sell like hot cakes — and soon resell at a premium". But, he hastened to add, the new relationship between architect and builder "will demand considerable flexibility of mind on both sides".

And what, indeed, can the School of Architecture do to meet the challenge of our times and better prepare candidates for practice in the modern world? I hope you will forgive me, Mr President if at this point I repeat a few of the observations I made in my recent address on Architectural Education to the Toronto Chapter of the OAA.

But first of all a compliment to the Ontario Association. I was astonished to learn when I came here that the statesmen of the OAA in their wisdom had solved two major problems of architectural education that are perplexing the RIBA, and to which there would seem to be no immediate solution in Britain; that of raising the standard of entry to the profession to that of a university degree, and that of providing a supply of well trained, skilled draftsmen, the essential complement to the professional man in the drafting room team.

In Britain over the years there have grown up many different ways of entering the profession, some outgrowths of the old apprentice system, others developed to enable the poor boy, or the boy living in remote areas to educate himself. One can go to a school for a five-year full-time course which may be at a university, or technical college, or college of art; one may take evening or part-time classes at certain approved institutions, or one may take a correspondence course. Everyone has to reach the minimum standard laid down by the central examining board of the RIBA. Having worked with students of all kinds, full time, and part time, degree and diploma, in university, technical college and college of art I have no doubt whatever which is the best environment — indeed the only satisfactory environment — for a school of architecture, and that that is the independent faculty or school within a university, where one can draw upon the resources of the whole campus, the kind of school that one finds at the University of Toronto.

At the Oxford conference last April we agreed unanimously that standards must be raised in Britain if our profession were to hold its own and indeed merit the respect it deserved in our increasingly competitive society. But the implementation of the Oxford conference's recommendations will be difficult in Britain with its complicated pattern of local and regional traditions, but here in Ontario there is no such background. No one can register in Ontario without a university degree or its equivalent, and from what I hear, the excellent courses at the Ryerson Institute of Technology are turning out draftsmen of very high calibre.

But there are other major problems that demand an early solution if we are to forge ahead. Two of these have already been stressed in a report submitted by Dr Murray Ross to the Senate of the University of Toronto and recently published; namely greater financial aid for the student, and the lengthening of the University year to three terms. Even in my short experience here I have been dismayed by the number of youngsters who are in financial difficulties and who do not know whether they will be able to continue through the following year even if they succeed in passing their examinations. There may have been something heroic in the old days in the picture of the young man who worked his way through college struggling to make ends meet, starving himself during term time, living in cheap lodgings and missing the essential civilized enjoyments of the theatre and concert, but in the modern world we can no longer afford to squander our human resources in this way. With the continually rising cost of living, a student's intellectual and spiritual development can be greatly retarded by the sheer weight of material worry and responsibility. The answer to this problem may lie in more bursaries, in more aid from industries and corporations, but it seems to me that in the final analysis the solution can only be found at government level. At my former University 80% of students in the School of Architecture were scholarship or grant-aided boys; but a figure of only 30% has been quoted for the University of Toronto.

The question of the length of the school year, too, is bound up with finance — if the long summer vacation is shortened then a student's earning capacity is correspondingly reduced, but I can assure you that the academic gain is immeasurable. Tensions are relaxed, there is more time for study, thinking and reading, and the educational process begins to assume a more balanced relationship with the demands of the practical world. I think it is most important that we as professional men with a stake in our Schools and Universities should consider the implications of these major changes very carefully. Dr Ross has drawn our attention to conditions in the Soviet Union, Professor Hendry's moving reports on the New China have forced upon us an awareness of the great economic battles that lie ahead. I emphasize again that we cannot afford wastage in any shape or form, least of all in terms of the human mind and intellect. But I am sure we would all rather feel that changes are brought about spontaneously for the reason that they are

good and desirable for the well-being of our youth and nation, rather than that we should be stampeded into educational reforms by the threat of a Soviet man-in-the-moon, or of tinned Chinese salmon on the Toronto market at five for the price of one.

Whether or not we attain these desirable objectives, we have still to ensure a more consistent flow of the right kind of individual into the School of Architecture and so into the profession. In my view it is essential for us to build up a far closer contact with the high schools if we are to become more effective. Ideally we should make contact with youngsters at grade twelve so that they could be advised how best to plan their last year at school, and we should have frequent opportunities of briefing those responsible for vocational guidance.

This is by no means a job for the amateur and the problem of selection for professional education is not easy of solution. There is as yet no reliable aptitude test for the potential architect, and nothing on his grade thirteen certificate will tell us whether or not he has design ability or even the temperament, interests and enthusiasms that are essential if he is to succeed.

To redress the balance we are now attempting to interview personally all candidates for admission to the Toronto School. We send out a carefully studied questionnaire and ask for visual evidence in the form of drawings, sketches or models.

We also urge applicants to try to talk with a practicing architect and see something of an architect's office before making a firm decision to join us. This may be yet another imposition upon an already overburdened profession but I would appeal to you for co-operation. If a very self-conscious young man calls upon you, when he has been suitably impressed by your efficient office and you have shown him the glossy pictures, the models and the happy faces of your designers and draftsmen, please tell him a little about the tribulations of practice — of the clients who won't play and then won't pay; of builders who won't build quickly, cheaply and well enough; of outdated by-laws, of covenants, liens and lawyers; and the mud, the drains, the damp, and "the things that go bump in the night". Please confirm the assurance he will certainly get from me, that his professional education in such an office as yours will last for at least five years after his university graduation. And please advise him not to get married on the strength of his enrolment by the University Registrar. Early marriages are jeopardising far more careers than examinations!

Then if he comes back to us with renewed enthusiasm, as he will if he's made of the right stuff, all may be well.

Then again, I wonder if our courses are sufficiently flexible, especially in the final years? In concentrating our efforts on producing first rate designers we may have neglected those with different, but not necessarily less important talents. It seems to me that we must watch carefully for the man with special skills and interests that begin to emerge as he concludes his five years with us — special aptitudes in structures perhaps, or in city planning; in history, in housing, or even in administration — so that we can encourage him or maybe direct him toward graduate research in one or other of these fields.

Research is very much in the news just now and everyone is jumping on the bandwagon — if I may use such a metaphor. But research is not only a normal function of the university, it is one of its most important functions. Those of us who have the privilege of working in the University environment should be able to take a more dispassionate, objective view of the problems that perplex the profession and society, and thereby reach out towards solutions which may elude the men who are more deeply and personally involved. Many professional people do not realize that research can take several forms in the School: for example, research by the Staff; graduate research by students reading for a higher degree; work by individuals or teams aimed at solving a particular technical or design problem — this latter is usually financed by some interested industrial concern, as, for example, was the Monsanto plastic house designed at MIT two years ago.

You may be interested to know that at my last University all members of the School staff were expected to undertake personal research as *part of their job* and to improve their academic standing; subjects ranged from archaeological work on the city of Cyrene in North Africa, to a study of modern precast reinforced concrete systems in Western Europe, and included

many remarkably thorough surveys of minor domestic buildings in the counties of England.

The fact that such work is being done raises the standard throughout a school and gives a sense of direction and purpose to both staff and students.

Lest you should think that the Toronto School is contributing little let me summarize briefly our present programme: — Professor Arthur has been given leave of absence for twelve months to complete his book on 19th and 20th century Toronto, which we confidently expect will be a major contribution to Canadian architectural history. Professor Raymore has begun preliminary work on a much needed textbook on the problems of specification writing; James Murray is making a notable contribution both practical and theoretical to our knowledge of housing; Stanley Kent is deeply involved in the problems of modular co-ordination; we have a graduate student doing a pilot study on housing in the northern territories which we hope will open up new areas for research, and in history and theory of design interesting developments can be expected.

Nor must I omit to mention our graduate course in City and Regional Planning under the direction of Professor Gordon Stephenson, which we hope shortly to develop into an even more effective educational instrument. (It is surprising however, that despite the tremendous opportunities existing in Canada for the man with planning qualifications, architects in Ontario have shown little inclination to take this course. I may be prejudiced, but I still think a degree in architecture is the best foundation for a city planner!)

We are also investigating the possibility of research in advanced structures where of course, we would hope to work in close liaison with the engineers. According to Mario Salvadori there is not yet a good laboratory for testing the behaviour of structures in model form in the whole of the U.S.A. — he claims there are only three in the world. Yet such a laboratory would be invaluable to the teaching programme, and I venture to suggest to industry and to the profession. Why should we not have the fourth in Toronto?

We cannot at the moment offer a graduate design course and therefore we must continue to lose first-rate people to the U.S.A. — but I see no reason why we should not remedy this also in the very near future.

The two major hurdles are, as usual, lack of money and shortage of accommodation. Since both these are material obstacles they don't worry me unduly; money will be forthcoming if the need is urgent enough, and soon (speaking in historical terms) we are to have a new building, so the problem of accommodation should be solved.

In all this talk of research and planning for the future I assure you that our great professional traditions are not being forgotten, history will remain basic, the very heart of any sound educational course in architecture since through history comes knowledge and understanding.

And so Mr President, we seek to serve the OAA not only by providing a first rate educational program — for as you know the Toronto School has long had a fine reputation — but by ensuring that the young men and women who are privileged to read Architecture at the University of Toronto are the best we can find. We hope too, through staff and graduate research to produce a steady flow of original work in several fields that will add considerably to our professional and academic knowledge.

We hope too, gentlemen, to promote much closer professional-school relations so that we may have the benefit of your wisdom and advice.

If we can serve you further by providing special refresher courses, symposia, or study courses, like that on Modular Co-ordination now made available through University Extension, please let us know.

"The teachers horizon" said John Christie in a recent BBC talk, "must be far beyond the immediate demands of the next lesson or the particular level at which he teaches his subject. The teacher's ultimate command is not 'look at me' but 'look the way I am looking'."

In the School of Architecture, Mr President, we are supremely aware of our professional and academic responsibilities, and I assure you that our horizons lie far beyond the next program, or the next lecture; we hope we may serve you well!

WHAT ROLE DO CANADIAN ARCHITECTS VISUALIZE the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada should play? After attending conventions, chapter and council meetings, formal dinners and informal discussion groups throughout the country I have concluded that the national membership strongly desires the Institute to speak out in a clear voice on their behalf, the membership seeks a resourceful, stimulating *Journal*, it expects active, purposeful standing committees, and, above all else, it voices the need for close, continuing contact between RAIC headquarters and the Provincial Associations. Most component bodies of the Institute have problems — some share identical problems — and they have a right to know that the RAIC is aware of, and understands, these problems, and is prepared to offer constructive assistance where possible.

To the individual architect the Provincial Association is naturally much closer to the daily practice of his profession than can the RAIC possibly be. In a sense the Association fosters the education of an architect, it registers him so that he may practise, it establishes the ground rules he must observe, it sets a minimum fee schedule, administers discipline, provides him with entertainment, helps maintain contact with other professions and church and school groups, gives him status and recognition, and acquaints the general public with the role of the architect through public relations.

What then remains for the RAIC to do? In these days of strongly competing interests the Institute must give a lead to component societies and provide, to the greatest extent possible, uniform policies and procedures. In respect to introducing uniformity to legal documentation, registration, fee schedules, and public relations the Institute will take an increasingly active role.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON BUILDING RESEARCH ACTIVE AGAIN

Under the Chairmanship of Robert Calvert of Toronto the RAIC Standing Committee on Building Research, which is comprised of Directors and faculty members of Schools of Architecture and private architects, met at the RAIC headquarters in Ottawa on Saturday, March 7.

The committee had not been active for some time and steps were taken to draft a new set of objectives. It was recognized that the committee, unable itself to participate in active research, should fill the role of intermediary between research institutions such as the Division of Building Research, NRC in Ottawa and members of the architectural profession.

Decision was made that private architects should be given full information about the research facilities available at the Research Council, and that permanent machinery be established to make research data available to the profession. Committee members agreed that architects should be taking greater advantage of the government research facilities than is now the case.

Directors of Schools of Architecture will be reporting to the committee the extent of building research activity now under way at the Universities.

Mr Calvert will be issuing a questionnaire to government agencies, associations and private industry to determine the nature and extent of Canadian architects' research.

The committee will reconvene at the Annual Assembly in Windsor on May 28.

Committee members are — R. G. Calvert (Chairman), Toronto; John Russell, Winnipeg; W. G. Raymore, Toronto; Ernest Smith, Winnipeg; John Bland, Montreal; C. D. Davidson, Halifax; Fred Lasserre, Vancouver; Pierre Morency, Montreal; Sam Gitterman, Ottawa; Stirling Ferguson, Ottawa; Max Roth, Montreal; Thomas Howarth and John Weir, Toronto.

FIRST RAIC PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE ON PUBLIC RELATIONS

Recognizing the basic importance to the architectural profession of a co-ordinated public relations policy and program, a full day conference was held at the Royal Alexandra Hotel in Winnipeg on Sunday, March 1. Attending the session were provincial presidents and public relations committee chairmen from six provincial associations west of Montreal.

The conference coincided with the visit to Manitoba of Robbins Elliott, Executive Director of the RAIC. Mr Elliott convened the Winnipeg meeting and acted as chairman.

Purpose of the session was to discuss the basic objectives of a national public relations policy, and to enable an exchange of views concerning the programs under way in various associations. The group, augmented by Maritime and Newfoundland representatives, will meet again at Windsor in May.

Present at Winnipeg were: from Quebec, Peter Barott, Montreal; from Ontario, Stewart Cauley, Toronto; from Manitoba, George Stewart and James Searle, Winnipeg; from Saskatchewan, K. Izumi, Regina; from Alberta, Donald Sinclair, Edmonton; from British Columbia, Warnett Kennedy, Vancouver; from the RAIC, Robbins Elliott, Ottawa.

COMMISSION ON SUBURBAN GROWTH MAY BE RECOMMENDED

The Joint RAIC-CMHC Committee formed in 1957 to investigate the role the architectural profession of Canada should play in the broad field of residential design and community development, has met twice recently to restudy the challenge presented to Canadian architects by Stewart Bates, President of CMHC in two Annual Assembly Addresses in 1957 and 1958.

The first meeting of the committee was held in Ottawa on February 21st and the second on March 14th.

It is understood that the committee, under the chairmanship of James Murray of Toronto, is prepared to make a definite recommendation to the next meeting of the Executive Committee of the RAIC on April 17th which would lead to the appointment of a Commission to study problems affecting suburban growth in Canada.

RAIC LIAISON WITH PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATIONS

One of the principal duties of an Executive Director in a national organization is to maintain close personal contact with the membership in a widely-separated group of component bodies. Robbins Elliott, Executive Director of the RAIC, completed on March 2nd a tour of all nine Provincial Associations. Mr Elliott, who is located at RAIC headquarters in Ottawa, visited the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland from January 8th to 15th and Western Canada during the period February 18th—March 1st.

This represents the first occasion that a representative of the RAIC has toured all Provinces within such a short period. Mr Elliott reported that he received a warm welcome throughout his travels, and said that Provincial Presidents and Council officers were particularly gratified to have an opportunity to discuss current problems.

He stated his pleasure at being given so many opportunities to meet individual architects.

In addition to making contact with architectural groups, the Executive Director made courtesy calls on provincial premiers or cabinet ministers, city mayors and university presidents.

His journey through the West in February culminated in a public relations conference at Winnipeg on March 1st, attended by provincial presidents and Public Relations Committee chairmen from six associations west of Montreal.

Mr Elliott's national itinerary was as follows:

Jan. 9-10	—Saint John	Feb. 18-20	—Vancouver
Jan. 12	—St. Johns	Feb. 21-22	—Edmonton
Jan. 13-14	—Halifax	Feb. 23-24	—Calgary
Jan. 29-31	—1959 PQAA Annual Assembly	Feb. 25	—Regina
Feb. 7	—Toronto (1959 OAA Convention)	Feb. 26	—Saskatoon
		Feb. 27-Mar. 1	—Winnipeg
		Mar. 2	—Fort William

FUTURE ISSUES

April	Libraries
May	St Lawrence Seaway
June	Campus Planning
July	RAIC Annual Assembly

ONTARIO

"THE MASTER ART" was the theme of the OAA convention held in Toronto earlier this month. The Convention committee had planned a gala three-day affair in the new luxurious and spacious wing of the Royal York Hotel. However, construction delays forced a last minute change — a one-day convention at a smaller hotel. In spite of the cramped, poorly-ventilated quarters, and the omission of the Exhibitors' displays and Saturday morning tour, many members — some three hundred and fifty or more — thought the trip was well worthwhile.

One surprise was the large turnout of attentive members at the morning Annual Meeting. This increasing interest and support is due, I believe, to the Annual Report outline of the thorough and devoted work of the Council and its many committees. In contrast to the meetings of past years, the criticism normally directed at the various chairmen was replaced by expressions of support and confidence. Suggestions were made and details were discussed in regard to the formation of new committees — to revise the RAIC Standard form of agreement between Client and Architect; to re-examine the Stipulated Sum contract document; and, to establish a testing service for building materials.

Our president, G. Everett Wilson, in his forthright address reviewed not only the accomplishments of the various committees but he forcibly stated that "in his opinion, Architecture is a glorious profession; we seldom think of the effect we have on the lives of our fellow citizens; we have created new construction techniques; all our members should live up to the high principles advertised"; and, in conclusion, "service to the public in the year ahead". The Chairman of the Registration Board announced the appointment of our secretary, John Miller, as an honorary member of the OAA. Those who have been active in association affairs are well aware of John's energy and devotion on our behalf, and his patient guidance of the zealous but often misinformed young committeeman.

After coffee break, the meeting reconvened to discuss the Annual Membership fees and new business. The president approached the subject of a proposed annual fee increase of ten dollars with some hesitation, no doubt due to past recollections of fee discussions. The dissenters were few in number, and I am convinced that if the motion had been made a strong majority would have carried the day. One item of new business concerned a proposal from the floor requesting that the RAIC submit an annual brief to the federal cabinet. On this note of stature, the meeting adjourned. Over luncheon, there was considerable post mortem conversation among those who had participated in the recent Toronto City Hall competition. This was probably influenced by a study of the models on display in the foyer, and the generous Toronto Chapter pre-luncheon cordials in the Hunting Room.



Retiring president, G. Everett Wilson, left, receives a gift from the incoming president, Lynden Y. McIntosh of Fort William, presented by the association for his devoted service.

In the afternoon Dr Nikolaus Pevsner of the University of London gave an illustrated lecture on "The Staircase". This talk completed a series of lectures on historical architecture presented by Dr Pevsner in Toronto during the previous week. He will be remembered by those U. of T. graduates who still

possess worn reprints of his book "Pioneers of the Modern Movement". In a brief but scholarly fashion, Dr Pevsner traced the evolution of the stair from Norman times, through the Renaissance, to the present day. The slides of the scissors, the spirals, the sketches of Da Vinci, the nymphs on the newel all passed too quickly. The expected convention message was not evident. In his book Dr Pevsner states "contemporary architects appear so extremely correct and cautious in their scholarly efforts". Perhaps the speaker's theme lay in his understatement of the delight of the "tilted corridor".

Before the formal evening, we hastened down the reverse stair, examined now in some detail, to refreshments and gatherings of old friends and former classmates. Future convention committees would do well to consider the value of more time for this annual inter-communication. At the Annual Dinner, the chairman of the Hamilton Chapter unveiled a six-foot high aluminum sculpture called "The Ballerina" by its creator, Mr G. J. Gause. This shimmering dancer is to adorn the sculpture court of the OAA headquarters building. Awards were made to outstanding students, and certificates were presented to the new members. Mrs Earle Sheppard, Mrs. Alfred Chapman and Mrs. James H. Craig received the now traditional engraved silver bowls in recognition of their late husbands' service as past presidents of the Association. Everett Wilson, in turn, received a similar tribute from our new president, Lynden McIntosh of Fort William. Our dinner speaker was Dr Thomas Howarth, the recently appointed Director of the School of Architecture of the University of Toronto. He deplored the uncontrolled mushrooming growth of our urban centres and stressed the need for our influence and leadership toward an orderly, yet imaginative, planning. He believes that there must be more opportunities for post graduate work and refresher courses for the practicing architect. Dr Howarth has already begun a program of building and planning research both at student and staff levels, and he hopes that this program may extend to, and be supported by this Association. Earlier in the day it had been stated that we had gained considerable public recognition in the past year, but Dr Howarth astutely reminded us of our future obligations.

At our conventions in the past years we have examined our ethics, our practice, and our personal and public relations. In my opinion, this short gathering showed a strength and a unity of purpose not evident before. I doubt that this is due to an ever-increasing membership, but rather to an awakening on the part of the individual architect to the fact that the work of the Association is having a marked influence on his creative endeavours. Perhaps the Master Art is emerging.

Stan H. Butcherd, Port Colborne

THE ONTARIO MEETING was reduced to one day because it was suddenly found that the commodious accommodation that the new Royal York would provide was not available. It was a new experience for the architect turned client to find the job not ready on time, but he bore it with patience and understanding. As a result, the meeting (the Presbyterian word "assembly" now seems to be the vogue) was reduced to one day, Mr Lane Knight wandered, lonely as a cloud, uninhibited by exhibitors, and the attendance at the business meeting beat all records for numbers. It would be a mistake to moralize on that and say that the "assembly" should be one day only, because the Royal York will positively be finished next February, and custom demands that we return to the two day affair.

The morning meeting was quite in the old tradition, except for two important items. In the old tradition, fees were too low and documents were out of date. Fees were too low even though the cost of building had risen with the cost of living. The crux (or one crux) of the matter was that, as building became more complicated technically, the amount of the building requiring consultant services had risen greatly as had the fees of the consultants themselves. It was even suggested that some members in the apartment house bracket (there was an air conditioning noise at the time, but the speaker seemed to say "bracket") far from requiring a higher fee, found their services amply rewarded by a lower fee than the present minimum. There were cries of "fie" and "not OAA members", and the chairman was able to restore order only by announcing the setting up of a committee to study the "fee structure". Its findings will be discussed in 1960, but it seemed certain that they would be of only academic interest to that group, how-



Mr John Miller, secretary of the OAA, is congratulated on his long and faithful service by E. W. Haldenby, Chairman of the Registration Board, at the Annual Dinner, and was presented with an honorary membership in the Association.

ever small, that practises on its own scale, and on its own sliding code of ethics.

The matter of documents is one that the ordinary member finds extremely boring, but happily there are those who will gladly go on a committee to bring last year's contract with the owner really up to date. It was pointed out that our documents are all RAIC productions, and here a note of heresy crept into the discussion led by Mr E. C. S. Cox. We, in Ontario, were a peculiar people pointed out Mr Cox, and the documents that were suitable for Medicine Hat or Nanaimo did not necessarily fit conditions in Toronto or Hamilton. Mr Cox said that the writing and revising of documents was, with him, a most relaxing indoor winter sport, and that he was quite happy to be working parallel to all other documentary committees, and that he would be glad to give them the fruits of his labours when they were ready.

Mr Al. Fisher had success with a motion which suggested that the incoming council investigate ways of obtaining accurate information on the value of this or that new product or building material. Various members spoke on this matter all (or nearly all) to the effect that no government body was willing to do such work. Even the chairman was quite emphatic on this point. It seemed that, at the fountain head of building



L. F. Hagadorn and Natalie Salkauskis, both of the University School of Architecture, and Leonard Campeis and Robert E. Taylor, both of the Ryerson School of Architectural Technology, receive congratulations from Lane Knight, representing exhibitors at the OAA meeting, for sharing in \$200 prize money put up each year for outstanding work by architectural students.

research, a clear line was drawn between research in the grand manner and common, or garden, testing. The purely hypothetical case was mentioned of the architect asking at the fountain head for an opinion on a tile. Conversation seemed to go like this—"It is all very well for you to call the subject a tile, but, be-

fore it is examined, we must ask ourselves—What is a tile? Did I hear you add, Mr So and So, that it is a floor tile? Well, of course, that widens the research considerably. The floor in all its ramifications and manifestations is a really first class piece of research. Yes, indeed! It might take a year before we really could examine the tile. As the architect leaves, he says "If I may be so bold, it does seem a lot of fuss over a 6" plastic tile!" Research person "Did I hear you aright? Plastic! That's frightfully new isn't it? The research into that would supersede all discussion of floor or tile! If you are in Ottawa in 1970 drop in and see us." Exeunt omnes.

The really memorable part of the morning session, and one enjoyed by everyone was the occasion when Mr Eric Haldenby read the citation raising the Secretary, Mr John Miller to rank among the immortals as honorary member. Members stood to show their agreement with the decision of council and to show their regard—even their affection—for the recipient. The chairman, Mr Everett Wilson, said that this was the first secret that council had kept (or was it "been able to keep?") from the Secretary, and Mr Miller's few, but most appropriate words of thanks indicated that it did come to him as a great surprise. Indeed, for most of us, it was the first surprise party we have attended where the person to be surprised was surprised.

We missed the afternoon and evening sessions, but we understand Mr Murray provided the *mot d'escalier* to Dr Pevsner's lecture on the stair by enquiring after his favourite stair with the nude descending. In the evening, Dr Howarth, with his wife in hospital, and himself just out of bed suffering from a painful malady read his address in the true spirit of Pagliacci. By all accounts, it and the dinner were a great success.

We should like to have seen the simple ceremony when a very good president handed over the gavel of office to a new, and we predict an equally good one from the Lakehead, *Vive le roi*.

Circumspice

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE OAA

I AM SURE THAT THIS IS THE ONLY OPPORTUNITY I will ever have to give a lecture to my fellows. I am going to take full advantage of it, but I would however like to preface my remarks by saying that the opinions expressed are my own, my very own, and not necessarily those of the members of council and certainly not of our Secretary.

The year has been a very eventful one due in large measure to the City Hall Competition. Not only has the manner in which it was conducted by Professor Arthur brought world wide acclaim and become a model for competition programs, but the local populace has become aware of architects and architecture as never before.

With the growing membership and increasing recognition of the association by the public, the presidential duties are becoming more difficult and onerous. I must confess that it will be with great relief that I hand over the gavel to my successor tonight. I am more than willing to be relegated to the group known to some of the more polite members as "old architects".

Almost every new member elected to council joins his fellows around the board table with the eager intention of re-organizing the association. After a relatively short while, although it seems to take longer for representatives from Hamilton, he suddenly discovers that a considerable amount of reasoned judgment is necessary and that drastic changes and improvements are not accomplished in one meeting.

His reward, however, is the association he gains with a group who are invariably dedicated to the profession. In particular I want to thank George Masson and Pete Cox, who leave council this year, for their loyal service and their personal help to me. There have been many occasions this past year when decisions had to be made without benefit of council and I turned to more experienced members for advice. In particular, I want to thank Mr Haldenby, who was always available, because he is one of a group who believes that time spent for the benefit of the profession takes precedence over their own practice.

In my reports to you after council meetings through the year I have attempted to give you some outline of our work. Any achievements we may claim have been covered there. There are some items of unfinished business however, on which I would like to comment. You may recall the proposal

to start a collection of drawings, mementos, etcetera, from past members for deposit and display in our building. Mr Forsey Page has accepted the task of obtaining this material with great enthusiasm and has already achieved a very worthy start with the project. We have made a contribution of \$1,000 to the University of Toronto for a slide collection which will be available to our members. We could do much more in the way of additional prizes and scholarships. The PQAA has started a fund made up of contributions by members to assist worthy students at the two schools in the province. We might well do the same for our school.

I had hoped to come to you at this meeting with a new working arrangement with consulting engineers in regard to the terms of contract and fee schedules. As you know, we have a committee working on this but the progress I had hoped for has not been attained.

We, as architects, have learnt how to prepare contract drawings, specifications, and documents to protect our client from every conceivable difficulty during the tender and construction period and for certain periods afterwards which are covered by guarantees. And yet we often make verbal or badly written contracts with specialists whom we retain to design under our direction elements of the building which have amounted to as much as 75% of the total cost. We provide ourselves with literally no protection for errors or omissions in the design and for a fee which is often settled by bargaining. This is hardly consistent with the ideals of the two professions. As the work designed by the consultant steadily increases in building cost, so does our office time of correlation, while our take home fee is reduced in an inverse ratio.

I am convinced that our profession has passed a turning point in its evolution. Buildings are becoming mechanical monsters and must be designed by a team of experts. I know you will agree with me when I state that the architect is the only member of this team trained to understand and correlate all design elements and administer the preparation of complete working drawings and specifications. In order to survive as the team captain, we must stress this at all times to our clients and the public. We must put our own house in order if we wish to retain this prerogative, and we had better start by preparing legal working and fee arrangements with the consultants. If this cannot be achieved across the conference table, then we had better prepare our own or all place engineers on our staff. I trust our committee will achieve success this coming year.

In September, Council visited the Lakehead for our meeting and were entertained royally by the local members. I was however somewhat dismayed to find that even west of Ottawa the OAA building is considered by some as "that clubhouse". I am now going to try to squelch that idea once and for all. 50 Park Road is the head office building for the 904 architects in Ontario. It has the most loyal staff of any association or firm I have ever discovered and at the risk of boring the small group of architects who serve on so many committees, I would like to mention a few of the items processed by the office in one year. The office received more than 4,000 communications from members and others, and approximately 5,500 individual letters and 100,000 bulletins, etc. were mailed to members. An average of 10 visitors and from 25 to 50 telephone calls per day were received. 127 meetings of Council, Registration Board and Committees were arranged and attended; minutes and records of these meetings were kept and copies sent to the members concerned. In addition, 144 meetings or functions were arranged for individual members or outside groups. The office processed 7,000 cheques, filled 1,300 orders for contract forms and documents, etc. and did the accounting and banking incidental to these transactions.

The building is sought out by many architects from many lands. We have received in this past year distinguished visitors from the United States, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Norway, Ireland, Finland, France, Jugo Slavia, Hong Kong, Holland, Switzerland and two large groups including the presidents of their associations from Rio de Janeiro and San Paulo. From letters received later from many of our visitors, it is obvious that our office building and staff have created a good impression.

I have just returned from the annual convention of the PQAA. The topics most discussed were professional ethics and public relations. They are in fact very closely related. This

year we have printed and distributed a code of ethics and we have a dedicated Committee for Public Relations with an excellent public relations counsel. I have been discouraged, during my term of office, to discover how many of our members have two codes of ethics; their own until the job is obtained and then the official one upon the signing of the contract. It is all very well for members to demand more effort on public relations but how can our committee overcome the bad impression made on the public by our frantic and competitive search for more and more work.

An office must be organized very efficiently to show a profit on a year's operation when paid the recommended minimum fees and providing the full services expected by our regulations. We degrade our services and ourselves by offering less. Public relations is not the science of getting more work for architects. If we had the respect of all our possible clients the work would come to us automatically. I do not believe that great architecture is produced by the fastest growing offices or that members of a learned and dignified profession should go in flocks to meetings of school and church boards. We wouldn't need to spend a cent on public relations if we fulfilled our obligations with honesty and dignity.

Architecture is a glorious profession. To the great architects it is a religion. In the daily stress of a practice we seldom stop to think of what effect we have on the daily lives of our fellow citizens. Do you realize that it is really only since the turn of this century that the services of trained architects have become readily available and have been used by all members of society. We are no longer dependent on patrons, or the highly educated, or the very rich. Through our design ability we have developed every category of building into clean, bright, efficient, and pleasant spaces in which to live or work or play. Through our constant demand for more efficient materials we have forced industry to develop and produce them. By our search for more economical methods of building we have created new construction techniques. It is the task of the Public Relations Committee to explain our achievements and the services we provide. I welcome this opportunity once again of thanking our Council and our loyal and efficient staff for their support. I wish you all well in your practices and service to the public in the year ahead.

G. Everett Wilson, President

ALBERTA

AT A JUBILEE CONVOCATION of the University of Alberta held on Monday, October 27 in the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium, an honour and distinction which falls only seldom within our ranks was conferred upon Cecil Scott Burgess, FRIBA, FRAIC Professor Emeritus.

Professor Burgess was presented by Dr Robert Newton, former President of the University of Alberta, to the Chancellor, Dr Laurance Yeomans Cairns, who admitted him to the degree of Doctor of Laws *Honoris Causa*.

This honour in recognition of a long and widely productive professional career is a matter of gratification to those who know him. It must be of particular interest to the members of the RAIC of which he has been an active member since the day of its inception.

Professor Burgess was born in Bombay on October 4, 1870, where his father was Director of the Archaeological Survey of India. He was educated in Edinburgh at the Royal High School of Edinburgh (Sir Walter Scott's school), at the Heriot Watt College and at the Art School conducted under the auspices of the Royal Scottish Academy. The latter two he attended as a part of his apprenticeship under Sir Washington Brown of Edinburgh. It was in this way that student architects acquired their academic and artistic backgrounds in a day when the only European "school" of architecture in existence was *Ecole des Beaux Arts* in Paris.

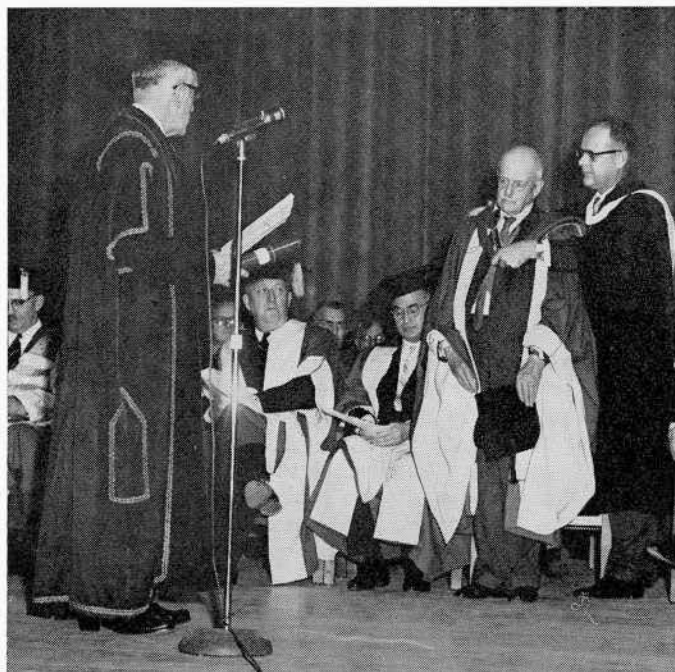
After wide travel and study and sketching in the Mediterranean countries and France, he came to Canada in 1903. He settled in Montreal where he worked at his profession under various principals, finally joining Percy E. Nobbs at McGill University where he lectured in Building Construction, Architectural History and Decorative Arts.

In 1913 he was invited by the late Dr H. M. Tory to come to the University of Alberta to act as Resident Architect on the large building program then commencing. Also as Dr

Tory's letter loosely put it he must "take an interest in the teaching" of the then small undergraduate body. From the day his duties commenced, Professor Burgess "took an interest" not only in the physical growth of the University but became an active element in the intellectual life of the place. Teaching staffs were scarce and in addition to professional duties as architect he was called upon to lecture in ancient, mediaeval, and renaissance history.

A Department of Architecture was created in the Faculty of Applied Science. Professor Burgess was placed in charge. He continued in this chair until his retirement in 1940.

For thirty years Professor Burgess was a member of Council of the Alberta Association of Architects. His experience and guidance in this capacity has been invaluable. His judgment and common sense have always tempered the decisions of this body with downright reality while his gentle enthusiasm for the arts and humanity have kept them far above the ordinary.



Dr C. S. Burgess receiving an honorary degree from the University of Alberta

He has sometimes acted on Special Committees of the RAIC and over the years has been a valuable contributor to the *RAIC Journal* on a wide variety of subjects.

In town planning the public has benefitted enormously from his careful and thoughtful foresight. For twenty years as a member of the City of Edmonton Town Planning Commission he laboured prodigiously for the acquisition of property by the City of Edmonton for a City Centre. The centre is now a reality. He was instrumental in having set aside forty parcels of land for community use at a time when their ultimate use seemed very distant and even doubtful. Due to growth far beyond even the most extravagant expectations, forty Community Leagues now develop and use these properties for community and recreational purposes.

Upon his retirement from the University and at the age of seventy he "opened" an office for private practice. At a time when most of us are ready to cry quits he embarked upon an active and busy career both as Architect and Town Planner. In the latter field his knowledge and sound judgment were recognized by the National Parks authorities who retained him on the planning and future development of the towns of Jasper and Banff. His recommendations covering these beauty centres of world-wide reputation have done much to direct the necessary commercial and other development along lines that will least detract from the natural beauties of the surroundings. They have also indicated means of controlling future development. His efforts in these two places will earn him the gratitude of untold numbers who go there to reach for the heavens.

He still attends his office every day.

Congratulations upon his recognition as a fine architect, a great scholar and an untiring public benefactor.

Don Sinclair, Edmonton

QUÉBEC

La soixante-huitième assemblée annuelle de l'Association des Architectes de la Province de Québec a eu lieu à l'Alpine Inn, Ste-Marguerite, Qué., les 29, 30 et 31 janvier 1959. La présence d'environ cent architectes a contribué au succès de l'Assemblée.

La première séance d'affaires a porté sur la revision des activités de l'année dernière et sur la présentation, la discussion et l'adoption des rapports des différents Comités. Un travail considérable a été accompli dans la revision de notre Tableau d'honneurs minimums et le nouveau texte sera bientôt prêt à être soumis aux membres de l'Association.

L'Assemblée a aussi approuvé une recommandation de former quatre Chapitres au sein de l'Association pour les régions suivantes: Montréal, Québec, Chicoutimi et Sherbrooke. Les détails sont présentement à l'étude et ces Chapitres devraient commencer leurs opérations cette année. Le Comité des locaux obtiendra d'ici quelques jours un titre de propriété incontestable relativement à notre bâtisse sise au 1825 ouest, rue Dorchester, Montréal, et tout porte à croire que nous l'occuperons d'ici un an.

Aux deuxième et troisième séances d'affaires il y eut installation des nouveaux dignitaires, discours inaugural de notre nouveau président et Affaires nouvelles. Les nouveaux dignitaires sont les suivants: Président, Randolph C. Betts; Premier vice-président, Georges E. deVarennes; Second vice-président, Richard E. Bolton; Secrétaire honoraire, Edouard Fiset; Trésorier honoraire, C. Davis Goodman; Membres du Conseil, Pierre Morency, Francis J. Nobbs, Paul O. Trépanier, Paul G. Brassard, Peter Barott, Denis Tremblay, Jacques David, Robert P. Fleming, Noel Mainguy, Paul Béland.

Notre nouveau président a insisté dans son premier discours sur le besoin de meneurs puissants pour la profession et sur la nécessité d'avoir l'appui de tous les membres, jeunes et vieux. Il a prévenu son auditoire d'un changement de philosophie dans notre société moderne à l'endroit de l'exercice de la profession d'architecte, changement qui suscite des problèmes dépassant l'orbite de la Loi des Architectes et des présents Règlements, et qui de ce fait, réclame une analyse nouvelle des conditions qui nous sont ainsi imposées.

Au titre des Affaires nouvelles, on a débattu un nombre considérable de sujets. Certains nouveaux comités ont été créés et des directives données à l'Exécutif et au Conseil pour la prochaine année.

Une séance d'étude fort intéressante sur l'urbanisme a eu lieu le samedi après-midi. MM. Burroughs Pelletier, ing.p., Directeur du Service provincial d'urbanisme et Claude Beaulieu ont prononcé des conférences, qui ont été suivies d'une discussion-forum. Il y eut présentation d'un film pour démontrer le chaos qui peut surgir d'une ville en croissance où il n'existe pas de plan directeur.

Le dîner annuel a enregistré une nombreuse assistance. L'honorable Howard C. Green, ministre des Travaux publics au fédéral était notre conférencier et invité d'honneur. Dans sa causerie, monsieur Green a commenté les relations excellentes qui existent entre son Ministère et les architectes du pays. Il a fait remarquer qu'environ deux cent quarante projets font présentement l'objet d'études par le Ministère, lesquels contribueront dans une large mesure au soulagement du chômage. Concernant la construction d'hiver, il a souhaité qu'on s'efforce de maintenir le même niveau de construction durant toute l'année. Les statistiques de son Ministère démontrent que la construction ne coûte que 5% de plus en hiver qu'en été. En dernier lieu, il a prédit que le volume de construction dans le pays augmenterait considérablement et dépasserait tous les records à date.

M. Walter S. Johnson, c.r., qui a été plusieurs années conseiller juridique de l'Association et l'a guidée dans plus d'une situation difficile, a reçu un certificat de membre honoraire de l'A.A.P.Q.

Le programme de l'assemblée annuelle était bien équilibré et offrait un mélange intéressant de discussions d'affaires et d'activités sociales, de sorte que ceux qui y ont assisté en sont repartis avec le sentiment de connaître et de comprendre davantage leurs confrères et également avec une détermination plus ferme de promouvoir les intérêts de l'Association.

Peter Barott, Montréal